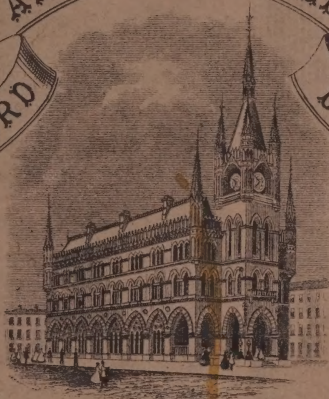


381.1
B72
v19

Chamber of Commerce
FOR
AND THE WORSTED
BRADFORD DISTRICT.



1870

Nineteenth Annual Report
OF THE
COUNCIL,

PRESENTED AT
THE GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS,
ON THE 24TH JANUARY, 1870.

BRADFORD:
GEORGE HARRISON, MANUFACTURING STATIONER AND STEAM PRINTER, CHEAPSIDE.
1870.

D. 04, 05

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
LIBRARY

Class

Book

Volume

Je 06-10M

BRADFORD
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

REPORT, 1869.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
FOR
BRADFORD AND THE WORSTED DISTRICT,

1870.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COUNCIL,

PRESENTED AT
THE GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS,
ON THE 24TH JANUARY, 1870.

BRADFORD :
GEORGE HARRISON, PRINTER BY STEAM POWER, CHEAPSIDE.
1870.

381.1
B 72
v 19

4

COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1870.

President :

JACOB BEHRENS, Esq.

Vice-Presidents :

JOHN V. GODWIN, Esq.

JAMES LAW, Esq.

Auditor :

H. W. SACHS, Esq.

HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.	E. H. WADE, Esq.
HENRY BROWN, Esq.	JOSEPH ODDY, Esq.
JAMES LEEMING, Esq.	ROBERT KELL, Esq.
H. AVERDIECK, Esq.	M. BOTTOMLEY JUN., Esq.
HENRY MITCHELL, Esq.	ABRAHAM MITCHELL, Esq.
A. HOFFMAN, Esq.	JOHN AMBLER, Esq.
CHARLES STEAD, Esq.	W. M. WECHMAR, Esq.
GEORGE M. WAUD, Esq.	ARCHIBALD NEILL, Esq.
LEOPOLD FULDA, Esq.	JOSEPH CRAVEN, Esq.
CHARLES SEMON, Esq.	THOMAS GARNETT, Esq.

Ex-Officio Members :

THE RIGHT HON. W. E. FORSTER, M.P.,

EDWARD MIALI, Esq., M.P.,

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF BRADFORD.

TREASURER : HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.

SECRETARY : JOHN DARLINGTON.

OFFICES :—Exchange, Bradford.

Arbitration Committee :

ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

The Arbitrators will be chosen by the Council, or may be selected by the disputants themselves.

Law Amendment Committee :

The PRESIDENT and two VICE-PRESIDENTS.

CHARLES SEMON, Esq.	HENRY BROWN, Esq.
CHARLES STEAD, Esq.	JAMES LEEMING, Esq.
HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.	ROBERT KELL, Esq.
E. H. WADE, Esq.	ARCHIBALD NEILL, Esq.
MOSES BOTTOMLEY, jun., Esq.	JOHN AMBLER, Esq.

Postal Committee :

The PRESIDENT and two VICE-PRESIDENTS.

GEORGE M. WAUD, Esq.	HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.
ROBERT KELL, Esq.	LEOPOLD FULDA, Esq.
THOMAS GARNETT, Esq.	A. HOFFMANN, Esq.
W. M. WECHMAR, Esq.	

Tariff Committee :

The PRESIDENT and two VICE-PRESIDENTS.

LEOPOLD FULDA, Esq.	ROBERT KELL, Esq.
HENRY MITCHELL, Esq.	CHARLES SEMON, Esq.
H. AVERDIECK, Esq.	A. HOFFMAN, Esq.
HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.	THOMAS GARNETT, Esq.
GEORGE M. WAUD, Esq.	W. M. WECHMAR, Esq.

Wool Supply Committee :

The PRESIDENT and two VICE-PRESIDENTS.

CHARLES STEAD, Esq.	HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.
JOSEPH ODDY, Esq.	M. BOTTOMLEY, jun., Esq.
GEORGE M. WAUD, Esq.	JOSEPH CRAVEN, Esq.
E. H. WADE, Esq.	JOHN AMBLER, Esq.
ABRAHAM MITCHELL, Esq.	

CONTENTS.

	Page.
List of Members of Council and Committee	4
Catalogue of Books	7
Annual Meeting	i.
Associated Chambers of Commerce	9
Bankruptcy	11
Wool Supply	19
Fraudulent Winding of Wool.....	24
Postal Reform.....	26
French Treaty	33
China „	41
Colonial Tariffs	47
Austrian Tariff	49
Spanish „	49
Brazilian „	51
Zollverein	52
Trades Union Bill.....	53
Minister of Commerce	53
Annual Exhibition of 1871	53
Government of India Bill.....	54
Inland Bonding	55
Workmen's Exhibition, 1870	56
Arbitration	56
Mr. Reverdy Johnson	56
Statistics.....	57
Petitions to Parliament	59
General Remarks	59
Books and Papers Received	59
Finances	60
Retirement of Members of the Council	60
Balance Sheet.....	61
Constitution and Laws	62
Bye Laws	67
List of Members	69
Report on Bankruptcy and Debtors' Act.....	79

CATALOGUE OF BOOKS.

- 1 Agricultural Commission on Employment of Children, Report of, vols. 1 and 2, 1868-9.
- 2 Agricultural Returns of Great Britain and Ireland, 1857 to 1867-8-9.
- 3 Abstracts of Reports on the Trades of various Countries, 1857-8-9, 1860.
- 4 Abyssinia, Routes in, 1867.
- 5 Abyssinia, Correspondence and Papers on, &c.
- 6 Alexander's Digest of Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act, 1856.
- 7 Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom, with Foreign Countries, for years 1853-4-5-6-7-8-9, 1860-1-2-3-4-5-6.
- 8 Annals du Commerce Extérieur, 1863-4-5-6-7-8-9.
- 9 Annals of British Legislation (Leone Levi).
- 10 Awards of the Juries, International Exhibition, 1862.
- 11 Bankruptcy Rules of Court, 1869.
- 12 British Consuls' Manual (Tuson).
- 13 Catalogue of a Collection of Works having reference to the Exhibition of 1851, in possession of Sir Wentworth Dilke.
- 14 Catalogue of the Contributors from India to the London Exhibition, 1862.
- 15 Coins, Currency, and Banking, on (H. N. Sealey), parts 1 and 2.
- 16 Codes, Les de L'Empire Francais, 1869.
- 17 Coinage, Report from Royal Commissioners on International.
- 18 Commercial Dictionary, McCullochs, 1869.
- 19 Commercial Reports, by Her Majesty's Secretaries of Legation. Parts 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.
- 20 Commercial Reports from Her Majesty's Consuls.
- 21 Commercial Law, its Principles and Administrations; or, the Mercantile Law of Great Britain (Leone Levi).
- 22 Correspondence respecting Discriminating Duties in France, Portugal, and Spain.
- 23 Correspondence with Her Majesty's Missions Abroad, regarding Industrial Societies, and Trades Unions, 1867.
- 24 County Courts, Rules, Orders, and forms of, 1867.
- 25 Customs' Tariffs of all Nations.
- 26 Customs' Tariffs, Colonies' Changes of, 1867.
- 27 Departments of Science and Arts, First and Third Reports.
- 28 Disturbances in Crete, 1867.
- 29 Diplomatic Correspondence of United States, 1864-5.
- 30 Directory, White's, Clothing District.
- 31 Droit Commercial, Compare de la France et de l'Angleterre.
- 32 Dublin International Exhibition, 1865, Official Catalogue.
- 33 Duties of Imports into France (Yapp).
- 34 Earl of Elgin's Mission in China and Japan, 1859-60.
- 35 Education in Ireland, Thirty-third Report on, for 1866.
- 36 Enquete sur les Principes et les Faits Généraux qui Régissent la Circulation Monétaire et Fiduciaire, 5 vols.
- 37 Exhibitors' Prospectuses, 1851.
- 38 Extradition, Report on.
- 39 Extradition, Report on by Select Committee.
- 40 Factories, Inspectors' Reports of, 1853 to 1869.
- 41 French Treaty of Commerce, 6 vols.
- 42 " Minutes and Documents.
- 43 Free Ships under Enemy's Flag.
- 44 Goschen's Foreign Exchange.
- 45 House of Commons Arrangement, Report on.
- 46 Import and Export Duties of the different Foreign Countries.
- 47 Inland Revenue, Report of, No. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12.
- 48 International Exhibition, 1862, Kingdom of Italy, Official Descriptive Catalogue (by order of Royal Italian Commission).

- 49 Maritime Legislation, by Wendt.
- 50 Miscellaneous Statistics of the United Kingdom, parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.
- 51 Minutes of Council on Education, 1857-8, vol. 1.
- 52 Patents, Abolition of.
- 53 Report Bank Act, 1858.
- 54 Report of the Postmaster General, Nos. 1 to 14.
- 55 Reports of Juries and List of Awards, Dublin International Exhibition, 1865.
- 56 Report of Bradford Chamber of Commerce, 1852 to 1870.
- 57 Report, Local Charges on Shipping, 1856.
- 58 Report, Trade with Foreign Nations.
- 59 Report of the Commissioners for Exhibition of 1851. 1 and 3.
- 60 Report on the Principal Accidents which have occurred on Railways in 1853.
- 61 Report upon the Extension of Mills and Factories' Acts to Bleaching Works.
- 62 Report of the Cathedral Commissioners.
- 63 Report on Preserved Meats (Navy).
- 64 Report on Smyrna.
- 65 Reports of New York Chambers of Commerce, 1858 to 1867, 8 vols.
- 66 Reports of Associated Chambers of Commerce, 1861 to 1869.
- 67 Report on the Present State of Trade between Great Britain and Russia, 1866.
- 68 Report on the Textile Fabrics of India, by Dr. Forbes Watson.
- 69 Report shewing Present State of Colonial Possessions, 1867, Part 1.
- 70 Report from the Select Committee on Charges on Foreign Trade. (Customs Act, 1860.)
- 71 Report of the Pollution of Rivers Commissioners, 1867.
- 72 Reports from the Foreign Commissioners in China, for 1865.
- 73 Reports on Paris Exhibition, 1867, Artisans'.
- 74 Report of School Enquiry Commissioners.
- 75 Reports on Paris Exhibition, 1867, with return relative to the new Order of Reward, 6 vols.
- 76 Reports of Jury, Paris Exhibition, 1867, published under the direction of Michel Chevalier, 13 vols.
- 77 Report of English Commission on Paris Exhibition, 1867.
- 78 Report of Commissioners of Customs, No. 12.
- 79 Report, Special, on Electric Telegraphs Bill.
- 80 Report, shewing Present State of Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, 1, 2, 3.
- 81 Report on Admiralty Monies and Accounts, 1868.
- 82 Report on Malt Tax, 1868.
- 83 Report of Neutrality Laws Commission.
- 84 Returns of East India and Bombay Banks, 1868.
- 85 Royal Kalendar and Court and City Register, 1869.
- 86 Scientific Instruction, Report on, 1867-8.
- 87 Southey on Colonial Wools. [9, 10, 11.
- 88 Statistical Tables relating to Foreign Countries, parts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8,
- 89 Statistical Tables relating to Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom, parts 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.
- 90 Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, in each of the last fifteen years, from 1846, Nos. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.
- 91 Statistical Abstract, Colonial and other Possessions, in each year, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5.
- 92 Suggestions for an Act to Amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Letters Patent for Invention (B. W. Hindmarch).
- 93 Tables of Population, Revenue, and Commerce, &c., of the United Kingdom and its Dependencies, part 22, with supplement.
- 94 Technical Education, replies to Lord Stanley in relation to Schools abroad, 1868.
- 95 Textile Fabrics of India, 18 vols.
- 96 Trade of United Kingdom with different Foreign Countries and British Possessions, 4.
- 97 Trades Union Commission Report.
- 98 Transactions of National Association for promoting Social Science, 1858.
- 99 Upper Yangtze, Report on the Trade of the.

BRADFORD
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

REPORT, 1869.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FOR

BRADFORD AND THE WORSTED DISTRICT,

1870.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COUNCIL,

PRESENTED AT

THE GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS,

ON THE 24TH JANUARY, 1870.

BRADFORD :

GEORGE HARRISON, PRINTER BY STEAM POWER, CHEAPSIDE.

1870.

COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1870.

President :

JACOB BEHRENS, Esq.

Vice-Presidents :

JOHN V. GODWIN, Esq.

JAMES LAW, Esq.

Auditor :

H. W. SACHS, Esq.

HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.	E. H. WADE, Esq.
HENRY BROWN, Esq.	JOSEPH ODDY, Esq.
JAMES LEEMING, Esq.	ROBERT KELL, Esq.
H. AVERDIECK, Esq.	M. BOTTOMLEY JUN., Esq.
HENRY MITCHELL, Esq.	ABRAHAM MITCHELL, Esq.
A. HOFFMAN, Esq.	JOHN AMBLER, Esq.
CHARLES STEAD, Esq.	W. M. WECHMAR, Esq.
GEORGE M. WAUD, Esq.	ARCHIBALD NEILL, Esq.
LEOPOLD FULDA, Esq.	JOSEPH CRAVEN, Esq.
CHARLES SEMON, Esq.	THOMAS GARNETT, Esq.

Ex-Officio Members :

THE RIGHT HON. W. E. FORSTER, M.P.,

EDWARD MIALI, Esq., M.P.,

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF BRADFORD.

TREASURER : HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.

SECRETARY : JOHN DARLINGTON.

OFFICES :—Exchange, Bradford.

Arbitration Committee :

ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

The Arbitrators will be chosen by the Council, or may be selected by the disputants themselves.

Law Amendment Committee :

The PRESIDENT and two VICE-PRESIDENTS.

CHARLES SEMON, Esq.	HENRY BROWN, Esq.
CHARLES STEAD, Esq.	JAMES LEEMING, Esq.
HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.	ROBERT KELL, Esq.
E. H. WADE, Esq.	ARCHIBALD NEILL, Esq.
MOSES BOTTOMLEY, jun., Esq.	JOHN AMBLER, Esq.

Postal Committee :

The PRESIDENT and two VICE-PRESIDENTS.

GEORGE M. WAUD, Esq.	HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.
ROBERT KELL, Esq.	LEOPOLD FULDA, Esq.
THOMAS GARNETT, Esq.	A. HOFFMANN, Esq.
W. M. WECHMAR, Esq.	

Tariff Committee :

The PRESIDENT and two VICE-PRESIDENTS.

LEOPOLD FULDA, Esq.	ROBERT KELL, Esq.
HENRY MITCHELL, Esq.	CHARLES SEMON, Esq.
H. AVERDIECK, Esq.	A. HOFFMAN, Esq.
HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.	THOMAS GARNETT, Esq.
GEORGE M. WAUD, Esq.	W. M. WECHMAR, Esq.

Wool Supply Committee :

The PRESIDENT and two VICE-PRESIDENTS.

CHARLES STEAD, Esq.	HENRY W. RIPLEY, Esq.
JOSEPH ODDY, Esq.	M. BOTTOMLEY, jun., Esq.
GEORGE M. WAUD, Esq.	JOSEPH CRAVEN, Esq.
E. H. WADE, Esq.	JOHN AMBLER, Esq.
ABRAHAM MITCHELL, Esq.	

CONTENTS.

	Page.
List of Members of Council and Committee	4
Catalogue of Books	7
Annual Meeting	i.
Associated Chambers of Commerce	9
Bankruptcy	11
Wool Supply	19
Fraudulent Winding of Wool.....	24
Postal Reform.....	26
French Treaty	33
China „	41
Colonial Tariffs	47
Austrian Tariff	49
Spanish „	49
Brazilian „	51
Zollverein	52
Trades Union Bill.....	53
Minister of Commerce	53
Annual Exhibition of 1871	53
Government of India Bill.....	54
Inland Bonding	55
Workmen's Exhibition, 1870	56
Arbitration	56
Mr. Reverdy Johnson	56
Statistics	57
Petitions to Parliament	59
General Remarks	59
Books and Papers Received	59
Finances	60
Retirement of Members of the Council	60
Balance Sheet.....	61
Constitution and Laws.....	62
Bye Laws	67
List of Members	69
Report on Bankruptcy and Debtors' Act.....	79

CATALOGUE OF BOOKS.

- 1 Agricultural Commission on Employment of Children, Report of, vols. 1 and 2, 1868-9.
- 2 Agricultural Returns of Great Britain and Ireland, 1857 to 1867-8-9.
- 3 Abstracts of Reports on the Trades of various Countries, 1857-8-9, 1860.
- 4 Abyssinia, Routes in, 1867.
- 5 Abyssinia, Correspondence and Papers on, &c.
- 6 Alexander's Digest of Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act, 1856.
- 7 Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom, with Foreign Countries, for years 1853-4-5-6-7-8-9, 1860-1-2-3-4-5-6.
- 8 Annals du Commerce Extérieur, 1863-4-5-6-7-8-9.
- 9 Annals of British Legislation (Leone Levi).
- 10 Awards of the Juries, International Exhibition, 1862.
- 11 Bankruptcy Rules of Court, 1869.
- 12 British Consuls' Manual (Tuson).
- 13 Catalogue of a Collection of Works having reference to the Exhibition of 1851, in possession of Sir Wentworth Dilke.
- 14 Catalogue of the Contributors from India to the London Exhibition, 1862.
- 15 Coins, Currency, and Banking, on (H. N. Sealey), parts 1 and 2.
- 16 Codes, Les de L'Empire Français, 1869.
- 17 Coinage, Report from Royal Commissioners on International.
- 18 Commercial Dictionary, McCullochs, 1869.
- 19 Commercial Reports, by Her Majesty's Secretaries of Legation. Parts 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.
- 20 Commercial Reports from Her Majesty's Consuls.
- 21 Commercial Law, its Principles and Administrations; or, the Mercantile Law of Great Britain (Leone Levi).
- 22 Correspondence respecting Discriminating Duties in France, Portugal, and Spain.
- 23 Correspondence with Her Majesty's Missions Abroad, regarding Industrial Societies, and Trades Unions, 1867.
- 24 County Courts, Rules, Orders, and forms of, 1867.
- 25 Customs' Tariffs of all Nations.
- 26 Customs' Tariffs, Colonies' Changes of, 1867.
- 27 Departments of Science and Arts, First and Third Reports.
- 28 Disturbances in Crete, 1867.
- 29 Diplomatic Correspondence of United States, 1864-5.
- 30 Directory, White's, Clothing District.
- 31 Droit Commercial, Compare de la France et de l'Angleterre.
- 32 Dublin International Exhibition, 1865, Official Catalogue.
- 33 Duties of Imports into France (Yapp).
- 34 Earl of Elgin's Mission in China and Japan, 1859-60.
- 35 Education in Ireland, Thirty-third Report on, for 1866.
- 36 Enquete sur les Principes et les Faits Généraux qui Régissent la Circulation Monétaire et Fiduciaire, 5 vols.
- 37 Exhibitors' Prospectuses, 1851.
- 38 Extradition, Report on.
- 39 Extradition, Report on by Select Committee.
- 40 Factories, Inspectors' Reports of, 1858 to 1869.
- 41 French Treaty of Commerce, 6 vols.
- 42 " Minutes and Documents.
- 43 Free Ships under Enemy's Flag.
- 44 Goschen's Foreign Exchange.
- 45 House of Commons Arrangement, Report on.
- 46 Import and Export Duties of the different Foreign Countries.
- 47 Inland Revenue, Report of, No. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12.
- 48 International Exhibition, 1862, Kingdom of Italy, Official Descriptive Catalogue (by order of Royal Italian Commission).

- 49 Maritime Legislation, by Wendt.
- 50 Miscellaneous Statistics of the United Kingdom, parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.
- 51 Minutes of Council on Education, 1857-8, vol. 1.
- 52 Patents, Abolition of.
- 53 Report Bank Act, 1858.
- 54 Report of the Postmaster General, Nos. 1 to 14.
- 55 Reports of Juries and List of Awards, Dublin International Exhibition, 1865.
- 56 Report of Bradford Chamber of Commerce, 1852 to 1870.
- 57 Report, Local Charges on Shipping, 1856.
- 58 Report, Trade with Foreign Nations.
- 59 Report of the Commissioners for Exhibition of 1851. 1 and 3.
- 60 Report on the Principal Accidents which have occurred on Railways in 1853.
- 61 Report upon the Extension of Mills and Factories' Acts to Bleaching Works.
- 62 Report of the Cathedral Commissioners.
- 63 Report on Preserved Meats (Navy).
- 64 Report on Smyrna.
- 65 Reports of New York Chambers of Commerce, 1858 to 1867, 8 vols.
- 66 Reports of Associated Chambers of Commerce, 1861 to 1869.
- 67 Report on the Present State of Trade between Great Britain and Russia, 1866.
- 68 Report on the Textile Fabrics of India, by Dr. Forbes Watson.
- 69 Report shewing Present State of Colonial Possessions, 1867, Part 1.
- 70 Report from the Select Committee on Charges on Foreign Trade. (Customs Act, 1860.)
- 71 Report of the Pollution of Rivers Commissioners, 1867.
- 72 Reports from the Foreign Commissioners in China, for 1865.
- 73 Reports on Paris Exhibition, 1867, Artisans'.
- 74 Report of School Enquiry Commissioners.
- 75 Reports on Paris Exhibition, 1867, with return relative to the new Order of Reward, 6 vols.
- 76 Reports of Jury, Paris Exhibition, 1867, published under the direction of Michel Chevalier, 13 vols.
- 77 Report of English Commission on Paris Exhibition, 1867.
- 78 Report of Commissioners of Customs, No. 12.
- 79 Report, Special, on Electric Telegraphs Bill.
- 80 Report, shewing Present State of Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, 1,2,3.
- 81 Report on Admiralty Monies and Accounts, 1868.
- 82 Report on Malt Tax, 1868.
- 83 Report of Neutrality Laws Commission.
- 84 Returns of East India and Bombay Banks, 1868.
- 85 Royal Kalendar and Court and City Register, 1869.
- 86 Scientific Instruction, Report on, 1867-8.
- 87 Southey on Colonial Woods. [9, 10, 11.
- 88 Statistical Tables relating to Foreign Countries, parts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8,
- 89 Statistical Tables relating to Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom, parts 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.
- 90 Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, in each of the last fifteen years, from 1846, Nos. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.
- 91 Statistical Abstract, Colonial and other Possessions, in each year, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5.
- 92 Suggestions for an Act to Amend and Consolidate the Law relating to Letters Patent for Invention (B. W. Hindmarch).
- 93 Tables of Population, Revenue, and Commerce, &c., of the United Kingdom and its Dependencies, part 22, with supplement.
- 94 Technical Education, replies to Lord Stanley in relation to Schools abroad, 1868.
- 95 Textile Fabrics of India, 18 vols.
- 96 Trade of United Kingdom with different Foreign Countries and British Possessions, 4.
- 97 Trades Union Commission Report.
- 98 Transactions of National Association for promoting Social Science, 1858.
- 99 Upper Yangtze, Report on the Trade of the,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
BRADFORD
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Members of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, was held in the Rooms of the Chamber, on Monday, the 24th January, 1870, Jacob Behrens, Esq. (President), in the Chair. Lord F. Cavendish, M.P., Edward Miall, Esq., M.P., Alfred Illingworth, Esq., M.P., John Whitwell, Esq., M.P., Mark Dawson, Esq. (Mayor of Bradford), W. T. S. Daniel, Esq., Q.C., County Court Judge, Darnton Lupton, Esq. (President of Leeds Chamber), S. Jubb, Esq. (President of Batley Chamber), W. Morris, Esq. (Vice-President of Halifax Chamber), and Wright Mellor, Esq. (President of the Huddersfield Chamber), and a large attendance of Members.

The Secretary read the Report of the proceedings of the Council for the past year.

The President then said: You have heard an account of the many things which we have attempted and the few which we have accomplished during the past year, but before I request you to express an opinion upon the report which we have submitted to your approval, I beg to claim the privilege of my position to say a few words on the place which Chambers of Commerce ought to occupy in the body politic, and on the great work which is yet in store for them. Let me thank you also for the readiness with which you have responded to my invitation, a readiness which I gladly accept as a proof that you are satisfied with the conduct of the Chamber's business, and as an encouragement for the Council to continue its endeavours to attain the great objects which belong to the legitimate province of Chambers of Commerce. My hearty thanks are particularly due to the representatives of neighbouring Chambers who honour us with their presence to-night. Their coming here on this occasion will, I hope, lead to the realisation of a favourite idea which I have long entertained. I refer to the union of the Chambers representing the Woollen and Worsted Districts for common action on all those questions which have a special interest for them. Many gentlemen present will remember the timidity with which this Chamber, and I believe all others, began their work. Ours at least had its full share of monitors, and we were more than once threatened with immediate dissolution, if we ventured to meddle

with any but the most trivial questions. Even our opposition to the amalgamation of two Railway Companies, which, as the event has proved, we rightly considered contrary to the interests of the district, was resented as an impertinent meddling with matters much above our comprehension. But we have lived on, gaining strength and experience, steadily acting upon the principle which our honoured senior Member, then our Vice-President, was never weary of maintaining, that the interests of trade belonged to the highest class of politics. Acting upon this advice, we asked for and obtained a committee on the relations of the Board of Trade with the other departments of the Government. The inquiry so ably conducted by Mr. Forster led to some improvement, but every day's experience shows that a great deal more is wanted, and if the Chambers generally support that of Halifax in their demand for the appointment of a Minister of Commerce, we may hope to see our long neglected interests adequately represented in the Cabinet. Our Chamber has had to devote a great deal of time to the consideration of matters connected with commercial treaties, and we may claim to have done our duty in this respect. I am afraid that the time is yet distant when all nations shall see fit to act upon the principle, that it is for the advantage of all to buy in the cheapest, and sell in the dearest market; and it is pretty certain that the work of the Chamber referring to Treaties of Commerce will require to be continued much longer than we at one time anticipated. Another, and a much more difficult set of questions will have to be discussed—more difficult because the interests of trade have to be considered in connection with the highest principles of national morality. I refer to our relations with such countries as China and Japan. The Council is called upon to express an opinion on the supplementary convention lately concluded at Peking, but as the papers relating to it only reached Bradford on Saturday, we are not yet in a position to form a correct opinion on so important a document, and I should recommend to submit it to the discussion of a Special Meeting of the Members, following the precedent of our late successful meeting on the French Treaty. But it is easy to preach free-trade doctrine to France, or the honest fulfilment of treaty obligations to China, and to forget that we have a great deal to reform at home. These reforms consist in what Mr. Cobden called, in one of his letters to me, “the barbarous way of raising a revenue by the imposition of customs duties.” Since the last shred of protection has been torn away by the abolition of the 1s. duty on corn, the foreigner cannot complain of any English industry being protected; but has British industry obtained the same justice? I say no; so long as the necessities of life are taxed excessively. Black mail is levied in the shape of 45 per cent. on sugar, 50 per cent. on coffee, and 30 per cent. on tea,

before these articles can come upon our breakfast table. The wholesale merchant and the grocer have, besides, to charge a profit upon the £9,000,000 capital which they must employ for the payment of this annual tax, which adds at least another million or two to the overweight which British Industry has to carry in the race. We have not yet entered upon the discussion of this subject in our Council Chamber, and I therefore mention it on my individual responsibility, but I feel confident that Chambers of Commerce ought to study immediately a question of such vital importance. We have the good fortune of having a man at the Treasury who does not shrink from responsibility in carrying through whatever he considers for the greatest good of the greatest number. The head of the Government is the worthy successor of Huskisson and Peel, and at the Board of Trade we have the friend and co-worker of Mr Cobden. Shall we not take advantage of so unprecedented a combination? Government wants money and must have taxes, but Mr. Lowe will, I believe, find it easy to reduce his claims by a wise economy, and to remodel taxation in such a manner as not to interfere with the capital-producing earnings and the savings of the country. It will be a happy time for England when the produce of the whole world can enter and leave her ports as free from Government interference as we ourselves can travel between Bradford and Manchester, and when Mr. Lowe shall offer to Mr. Forster 135 Custom-houses to be converted into schools or colleges, instead of frowning as they do now upon commerce like so many robber castles of the middle ages. To this consummation the Chambers of Commerce can give most powerful aid, and I trust that no reciprocity fallacy, or in whatever other form the ghost of protection may yet re-appear, will prevent them from persevering in the only right course before them. Other measures of equal importance are intimately connected with freedom of trade, and must, sooner or later, follow its adoption. I need only to name the introduction of a universal system of money, weights and measures, of one code of commercial laws for all civilised countries, and of the freedom of commerce at sea, even in time of war, to show what are the cosmopolite politics which Chambers of Commerce must study and act upon if they intend to fulfil their great and useful mission.

Lord F. Cavendish, M.P., in moving the adoption of the Report, expressed the pleasure he felt in being present at that meeting. When he ventured to say anything to the members of that Chamber on commercial subjects he felt that they, as his constituents, were entitled to know his opinions on various questions of importance, and he was only too glad to have an opportunity of enlightening his own ignorance. The task before him was that of asking them to adopt the Report which had been read. He was sure they

would not wish him to enter on all the topics to which it referred, but they would agree with him that it showed how well their Council had served them. There was scarcely a question connected with the commerce or industry of the country which their indefatigable president had not placed on the broad shoulders of the Council; and that report also most strongly confirmed the remark of the President as to the growing importance of those Chambers, and of that mighty Association which embraced nearly all the Chambers in the country. No one could have attended the debates in the House of Commons on the Bankruptcy Bill last Session without seeing how potently the Chambers of Commerce throughout the country had influenced the measure; and if, as he hoped, Parliament had at last, after ten or twelve years of preparation, produced a satisfactory measure, it was in no small degree due to the exertions of the Bradford Chamber and of other kindred associations. If the duties of Chambers of Commerce had been important in the past, they promised to be equally important in the future; for in the rapid changes which the mighty engineering works of the present day were bringing to pass, England could only maintain her position by keeping up to the level, by obtaining all information, and by straining every nerve. Within the past year we had seen completed that mighty railway spanning the continent of America, which, as he saw by the papers, might be said to have brought Australia within forty days of England; and we had seen completed that vast work which reflected such honour on our neighbours across the Channel—the Suez Canal. We have seen, stretching out in every direction, those marvellous oceanic cables by which instantaneous communication was established between almost every part of the earth. There were many men on the Continent who, he believed, thought that these works were destined to rob England of her pre-eminence as the first commercial nation in world; but he did not share in that anticipation. For, taking the work which might at first sight seem most prejudicial to England—the Suez Canal—he believed that if we retained our old energy, we might reap as much benefit from that undertaking as any other nation. It was true that by that canal Trieste, Venice, Marseilles, and other great ports were placed nearer the riches of the East than England, but on the other hand, it must be remembered that, though the distance has been shortened, ships would not sail down the Red Sea without coal, and that the best Steamers were built of iron; and considering, therefore, that England had the cheapest coal, and that she was the greatest shipbuilding country in the world, we might have, at least, as much advantage from the canal as any other country. Turning next to the question which he observed had created more interest than any other among commercial classes of late—the French Treaty, his Lordship

observed that we had had simultaneously a strong agitation in France for its repeal, and we had had at home an equally strong protectionist reaction, veiling itself under the name of reciprocity. He, for one, was not the least surprised at the feeling which had been expressed in France about the treaty. He regarded the accomplishment of that treaty as the one act which would confer distinction and honour in future times on the name of the present Emperor. But they must remember that, owing to the system of government which prevailed in France at the time that treaty was concluded, the act was not the act of the French people. The treaty was not accomplished, as the abolition of the corn laws was in this country, after the whole people, as it were, had been taken into consultation, and had gradually been educated up to it. The French at that time had thought fit to entrust the sole power into the hands of the Emperor. And who, were we to say we would not take the representative of the French,—that they had no representative, and that we would wait until they obtained one. That would have been an insult to a great and high-spirited people, and an act at once foolish and unworthy of us. But, while holding these notions, we must see that it was not unnatural that the French people, having recovered their liberties, should not be specially inclined to an Act which had been carried in this way, and also that it was almost inevitable, that that full discussion which liberty of speech and liberty of the press alone could give should not have opened their minds to the truths of free-trade. The reason why we in England held to that treaty was that, although the act of one man in its origin, yet we believed that in its result it would be beneficial to all, and he had little fear, now that the discussion had been begun, that it would not cease until the truths on which the treaty was founded came home to the convictions of the French people. When M. Thiers spoke of a nation depending upon itself alone being less vulnerable to attack than those nations which were joined in beneficial relations with all others, he seemed to him (Lord F. Cavendish), to speak as wisely as a man who should say that a beggar who was naked and without property was in a better position than a well-clothed and comfortably established man of business. But if we had no right to be surprised at the agitation in France against this treaty he thought we had some little right to be surprised at the support which in some parts of England had been given to the cry of reciprocity. Had England experienced twenty years of free-trade, and did it still require to learn its alphabet? Was it necessary that after we had in that period more than trebled—well-nigh quadrupled—our exports and imports, we should have to find answers to the complaint, that, owing to free-trade, the imports of foreign manufactures had increased from £8,000,000 (he believed) to £22,000,000, and that

£14,000,00 had thus been robbed from the poor? If he had been present when that fluent orator, the member for Coventry, was addressing his constituents, he should have liked to ask him how those £14,000,000 worth of goods were paid for. Had the French acted with such unrivalled generosity as to have given us these £14,000,000? If they did not so act, where had the payment for these manufactures come from? The member for Coventry might have answered, he did not think he could have, that they were paid for by gold, and that England was so much the poorer; he did not suppose that, even speaking to a Coventry audience, the orator would have gone back to the old theory of the balance of trade. But, if they were paid for, as they must be paid for by exports of English manufactures, then was England poorer or not? And was the labourer poorer or not? They were told that these imports from France were chiefly silk and wine, the luxuries of the rich; and very likely they were. But how would it benefit the poor, instead of paying the wages for the production of those manufactures which were sent to France to pay for those silks and wines, to employ them in the production of articles which they could not excel in as compared with the French, for the purpose of enabling them to compete with the French? Why these fourteen million's worth of goods would have cost seventeen or eighteen millions if they had been produced in England, while, as it was, we had obtained them by fourteen millions' worth of English manufactures, and had three or four millions more to spend at home in wages for our own productions. But really, on this subject, we need waste no more time, seeing that, although the Conservative newspapers did keep up the cry, such men as Lord Derby and Sir Stafford Northcote told them it would not do. But how did it come that after twenty years of free-trade we had this agitation? No doubt, as must be the case with all branches of trade which had suffered under the misfortune of being protected, and the capital of which, the protection being withdrawn, had had to be directed into other channels, there had been a time of great depression and of great suffering. He would mention two or three causes for this depression of trade. One of them was the vast armaments which had made the peace of Europe a mockery, or little better than actual war; but he thought at last that there were some signs that foreign nations were getting tired of this. The popular candidates in France were complaining of the burden of the conscription. We saw the nation of Saxony declaring for a reduction of the army, and Italy coming to the same policy, and in fact every nation would find it necessary, whether they liked it or not, to abandon the suicidal system of vast armaments. Another great cause of the depression had been the remaining effects of that mighty convulsion which had taken place in the United

States. Unrivalled as were the efforts which had been made by both parties in that great struggle, and unrivalled as was the reaction by which they had thrown by its effects, it was still impossible that a nation which had converted its millions of labourers into soldiers, and spent its hundred million of pounds in a prodigal manner, should not to some extent feel the consequences of such exertions. But nothing which he had read for some time had cheered him so much as what he had seen in Mr. Wells's report, as to prosperity which was beginning to dawn on the Southern States—a prosperity which was such as to put in the background all the vaunted wealth of the past. It was true that that prosperity was still to some extent retarded by what we regarded as the suicidal policy of the United States tariffs. But he thought in a few years we should see those tariffs swept away. Naturally when the national feeling of a people had been excited as that of the Americans was by the struggle through which they had passed, they would have some of that feeling of which M. Thiers spoke,—the feeling of being self-contained; but as time went on, they would feel that they would be made stronger and better by services received from and rendered to all other nations. And as that marvellous West of the United States grew in wealth and population, and in consequent numbers of representatives, and as they, with the representatives of the Southern States, which must be bound in common with them in the interests of free-trade, became the vast majority in the House of Congress, we should see all these tariffs swept away. But some of the causes of the depression might undoubtedly be looked for at home. There was the labour question, but on this subject he looked forward with hope. It seemed to him that the experience of the last two or three years had been satisfactory. We still had strikes and violence, but, on the whole, the violence had diminished, and we were feeling our way to remedies. We had seen co-operation extending in various new directions; and we had seen arbitration yielding unhopd for success. There was yet another cause of the depression, namely, the feeling of insecurity and want of confidence caused by the exposure of the last panic. The name of the English merchant and trader used to stand unrivalled in the world, but he feared there had been some amongst them who had done much to tarnish that fair name, and although he thought little could be done in this respect by the Legislature, yet we might look for some good results from the Bankruptcy Act of last year. But it was public opinion—the opinion of their own class—which must mainly act in this, and Chambers of Commerce could perform no nobler or more useful task than by labouring to elevate the public opinion of the merchants and traders of the country, they would all know what had been done by clubs of all classes to raise the standard of honour among gentle-

men; and in the same way it might be felt that anything the least doubtful, the least shady, the least that a man might feel ought to be kept in the dark, would be unworthy of a man who belonged to a Chamber of Commerce. Lord Frederick adverted to the unsatisfactory working of limited liability companies, apparently from some inherent fault in their mode of management. There was one other cause of the depression which he would allude to, and that was, in plain words, the ignorance of our working men, managers and employers, comparing them with those of other countries. He appealed to the employers and manufacturers of Yorkshire to help in establishing a better state of things. He saw no reason why we should not be abreast, in the scientific department of manufactures, with the French and Germans, who had learnt the practical part from us. Therefore, they were going to attempt to have in Yorkshire a college of science as good as on the continent. If by this means they could advance the scientific culture of employers and workmen, they might look with satisfaction on the ever increasing progress of English commerce and English wealth, for they should know that that commerce must conduce to the happiness of the united people of England.

Mr Miall, M P. said: Allow me, in the first place, just to express the pleasure I feel in being for the first time amongst you since I have obtained my important relation to this borough. Your functions towards commerce resemble very much the functions of the House of Commons towards the country at large. You have to take those questions which peculiarly connect themselves with the progress and extension of commerce under your notice and discuss them thoroughly, sifting them as it were, through all the various processes by which you must detach error from truth, and presenting them in all their beauty and force to those who have the authority to make the laws. I listened with much instruction to the report which has been presented to you this evening, and I echo the remark of the noble lord the member for the Northern division of the West Riding, that that report, at any rate, indicates and proves the activity of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce in all that relates to its present aspects. But I listened also with somewhat deeper interest to the speech of the President of the Chamber, in which he showed that not only the simple details of commerce are taken up, and made objects of interest by this Chamber; but, if I may so say, the very philosophy of commerce is studied. And the soul of all those questions which present themselves for discussion, as well as the questions themselves, receives recognition from the members of this body. There have been no more important questions touched upon this evening than the questions which were touched upon so eloquently by our chairman—the questions of taxation,

of custom-houses, of the proper mode of gaining as much revenue for the sustentation of the Government as the Government absolutely needs. I believe, with him, that Chambers of Commerce have hitherto scarcely felt their own power. What they have done has been done but tentatively ; their facilities, if I may so speak, are being educated, are growing, and becoming more and more capable of grappling with some of the difficult subjects which necessarily will come before them in the future. And the question of taxation is one which, after all, is a question intimately connected with the progress and success of commercial undertakings, because the taxation, supposing that its incidence is unfortunate or ill-selected, and supposing that its amount is far too great, necessarily presses upon the very springs of industry, and thereby undoubtedly curtails all the operations of the commercial world. Sweep away your custom-houses, let all goods which come into the country come into the country free, and then the spirit of commercial enterprise will be able to exercise itself without let or hindrance, and no mind can possibly foresee what might be the expansion which may follow upon this liberation of commerce. But I think it is due, also, to the people of this country that they should be made to understand that their interests are undoubtedly associated with and wrapped up in a proper system of taxation. The "free breakfast table," of which talk has been made, will, I trust, be approached somewhat nearer during the next session of Parliament. I have no authority for what I say than any other man who watches the general indication of ministerial movements. But I should not be at all surprised if, during the next session of Parliament, Mr. Lowe should come down and present one of the most brilliant budgets that we have had for some years past. It is quite possible that he will have five millions of money to deal with, and there are a few indications in Mincing Lane, or at all events there are strong speculations there, that the project of the present Government is to relieve the springs of industry in this country by entirely sweeping away the sugar duty. Now, this is one of the duties placed upon foreign produce that undoubtedly requires to be swept away, and has the first title to the consideration of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, because I may say it is becoming one of the necessities of life. It is not simply a luxury, and to all the labouring classes it is perhaps one of the heaviest items of indirect taxation which they have to pay for, that which is concerned with their comfort and their well-being. The report made mention of one topic with respect to which it will be unnecessary for me to say more than a word, and that word to express my entire sympathy and conviction, in harmony with that subject—I mean the establishment of tribunals of commerce. I believe that if tribunals of commerce are instituted—as according

to the dictates of common sense I think they ought to be instituted all over the land—the result will be due as much as to any other cause to the exertions and to the lucid arguments which have been adduced in reference to this subject by the gentleman now in the chair. It was my good fortune some time ago to get hold of some publications in which he had set forth his views upon this matter; and although I have not seen the bill which has been prepared to embody the ideas he then threw out, yet I have not the smallest doubt that if he has had the preparation of that bill in his hands, a very satisfactory measure will have been produced. It will give me the utmost pleasure in my place in Parliament to do what I can towards the introduction and carrying of a measure for the accomplishment of that object. I scarcely need advert to another very important topic, a topic indeed almost as important as any that has preceded it. I mean that of belligerent rights at sea,—an agreement with other nations—an international agreement—by which property at sea shall be respected during war, as property on land now virtually is; and that whatever may be the warlike operations that are carried on, that destruction of the property of the subjects of belligerents shall not be considered as a fair and legitimate method of doing injury to the enemy. Then we come to the Commercial Treaty, which has been spoken of so well by the noble lord, the member for the Northern Division of the West Riding. Upon that subject, I shall not detain you, as all of you are thoroughly masters of that question. You have seen, of course, into the hollowness of those pretences which have been put forward on this side of the water in support of the abrogation of that treaty, or, allowing it to drop, by those who are anxious for the revival of industry. Now, I don't know whether the revival of industry by means of dropping that treaty is intended to extend or limit the operations of commerce, but I find that, in 1854, the tonnage of sailing and steam vessels of the mercantile marine of this country was 196,942 tons; in 1868 that tonnage had increased to 379,573 tons—a clear proof, no doubt, to the mind of a revivalist, but to the mind of no other intelligent individual whatever, that our mercantile interests have suffered during the period of the operation of the French Treaty. Let me mention one other fact, in 1854 the total value of our exports was £97,184,726; in 1868 there were £179,463,644 of British productions alone. Now, looking at these two facts, one cannot but come to the conclusion which irresistably forces itself upon our mind, that the operation of the French Treaty has been largely beneficial to the interests of the commerce of this country. I believe that on the other side it can be proved that it has been almost equally, in proportion, beneficial to the interests of the French people. They are now discussing this question, and I trust they will come to the

conclusion which will be warranted and confirmed by the good sense of the whole community—namely, that these treaties, although in their origin and in the mode of their being effected were somewhat objectionable, at all events they were open to objections from Frenchmen, though not from Englishmen; yet now, when they have been in operation during nearly ten years, and have produced the results which may be fairly traced to them, the idea of concluding them and setting them aside is one that is utterly incompatible with the dictates either of good sense or good feeling. For, after all, it is not simply an expansion of trade which one wishes to see as the result of this treaty, but it is the promotion of a kindly feeling between the two countries, the putting away from the minds of all individuals connected with the two countries of the idea of war—the rendering, in fact, of hostile collision between the two countries utterly impossible for the future, or, if not utterly impossible, so impracticable that with the utmost difficulty will there be a resort to any such barbarous practice. Now, gentlemen, I will not occupy further the time of the Chamber. I can only express the deep interest I have felt in what has to-night come before you, and I wish to take this opportunity of saying that, if in the capacity of member for this borough I can be of the smallest assistance to you in furthering the views which you are endeavouring to promote in any way, I shall be most happy to hold myself entirely devoted to the promotion of your service. Mr. Miall concluded by seconding the motion for the adoption of the report, which was then put and carried.

Mr. Whitwell, M.P., moved the second resolution as follows:—

That it is the duty, and within the province of Chambers of Commerce, to consider every public question bearing upon the trade and manufactures of the country, and, consequently, that all taxation affecting commerce, deserves the serious consideration of all such Chambers.

He stated that he could hardly have felt that he had a *locus standi* among them, but that he represented a little town (Kendal) which had an industrial interest almost identical with that of Bradford. He alluded to the labours of the Wool Supply Committee. This subject of the supply of wool he felt to be a national question, and it was one which had excited great interest abroad. In America the subject was being taken up with the greatest energy; associations for promoting the growth of wool were being formed all over the United States, and one of these associations had suggested the offering of “a magnificent prize” to the man who produced the best flock of 200 home-bred long-woolled English sheep. Although wool had been one of the

greatest sources of England's prosperity hitherto, yet our achievements in this matter were susceptible of improvement, and he trusted that the Wool Supply Committee would show in dealing with the question the same energy which seemed to be displayed by the Chamber in every question it took up. Mr. Whitwell next referred to the great exertions and influence of the Commercial Chambers of the United States, which existed mainly to support the system of protection. The income of the Bradford Chamber was £300 a year; the income of some of the American Chambers was £3000 a year. He did not know how many hundred members there were in the Bradford Chamber; but some of those in the United States counted their members not by hundreds but by thousands, and that of Boston had 800 members. He believed the time was come when commerce must be recognised by Government as one of the most important duties to perform. After again alluding to the wool-growing associations in the United States, Mr. Whitwell said the real reason why the ship-building interest in America was diminishing, was that the duties on the various articles required for the construction of ships were so enormous there as to be virtually prohibitory. He quoted some singular suggestions made by one of the American protective associations to remedy the dwindling shipping interest of the United States. The wool manufacturers in the States were beginning to think that it was rather hard that they should be precluded from importing long wool and yarns spun from long wool. After giving quotations in illustration of this, Mr. Whitwell expressed the hope that the time would speedily come when America would find it necessary to remove the existing hindrances to trade in the shape of prohibitory duties. He urged that English Chambers of Commerce ought to do their best to assist the Government in removing every remnant of a tariff which impeded the expansion of trade. He next adverted to the question of the French Treaty, and its influence on Roubaix, which had been immensely increased in prosperity and population by its operation. He closed by the expression of a hope that the Chambers of Commerce would zealously support the Government in maintaining the free-trade policy of England.

Mr. H. W. Ripley seconded the resolution, and remarked that it was somewhat of an aggressive one. Ten years ago, if such a resolution had been put before the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, startled indeed they would have been. At that time they had to confine their attention to a few local and general questions, and he was therefore happy to second such a resolution as that which had been moved by Mr. Whitwell. After anticipating that both the income and membership of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce would ere long be greatly increased, Mr. Ripley

adverted to the depression which had prevailed among the employers of the country for three years. If that depression continued much longer, employers might possibly be compelled to consider the necessity of reducing the wages of their work-people; but he thought another means of meeting the case might be found in a reduction of the taxes which pressed so heavily on the industry of the country. When they remembered that the duties on tea, sugar, and coffee amounted on the average to 6s. for each head of the population, he thought it was a matter for their careful attention to see what they could do to relieve the population of those burdens. Mr. Ripley anticipated the triumph of free-trade doctrines in France and in the United States.

The resolution was carried amid applause.

The Mayor moved the third resolution, as follows:—

That the best thanks of the Chamber are due, and are hereby given, to the President and Council, for the services they have rendered during the past year.

He was satisfied that the members of the Chamber and the people of Bradford were indebted to the Council for their labours during the past year. If it had done nothing beyond the preparation of the exhaustive report presented at a meeting the other day, with reference to the French Treaty, the Council and the President would have deserved their hearty thanks.

Mr. A. Illingworth, M.P., seconded the resolution, and expressed his high admiration of the report, and of the speech of the president that evening. The work done by the Chamber during the year was almost immeasurable in its extent and importance; and it was impossible for any body of this character to overrate their usefulness in the future. Mr. Illingworth briefly adverted to the questions of the incidence of taxation, the renewal of the French Treaty, and the drawing closer of the ties of amity between the nations. He expressed the belief that now the reconstruction of the United States was complete, the great regions of the South and West, the producers of raw material, would compel the adoption of a free-trade policy on the other side of the Atlantic.

Mr. Darnton Lupton (Leeds) supported the motion, and, after adverting to the high position of the Bradford Chamber, dwelt on the great importance of securing the appointment of a Minister of Commerce, and the desirability of obtaining the establishment of tribunals of commerce. The Admiralty Jurisdic-

tion Bill had worked admirably in the seaport towns, and tribunals of commerce on a similar principle would doubtless be equally successful. A great many cases of arbitration were dealt with in a very satisfactory manner by the Leeds Chamber of Commerce, and by the method they pursued they saved to commercial men a great deal of money which would otherwise have gone in law expenses.

The motion was put by Mr. Illingworth, M.P , and carried.

The President responded, and, after another vote of thanks to him for his services in the chair, moved by Mr. Darnton Lupton and seconded by Mr. Daniel, Q.C , the proceedings terminated.

THE
NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
FOR
BRADFORD AND THE WORSTED DISTRICT,

*Presented at the General Annual Meeting of the
Members, on the 24th January, 1870.*

REPORT.

The Council present the Report of their proceedings for the past year.

ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

Two meetings of the Association have been held this year, viz.: the annual one in London, in February, and an extraordinary one in Birmingham, in November last. The former was reported by the deputation appointed from this Chamber and which consisted of the President (Mr. Behrens), Vice-President (Mr. Ald. Law), and Mr. Ripley, to have been of a very satisfactory character; and although the preoccupation of Parliament with other important questions, has prevented purely commercial subjects from receiving that attention which these meetings are intended to obtain from Government and the Legislature, yet it affords much satisfaction to find that they attract each year more public notice, and that their influence upon public men and the legislature becomes every year more apparent. The commercial world may congratulate the Association upon the accomplishment of an object which for many years past has been

one of the most prominent topics of discussion; one with which the proceedings of our commercial parliament were always opened, viz: that of Bankruptcy. After many failures and the withdrawal of three or four bills by successive Governments, the consolidation of the Bankruptcy Law is at last an accomplished fact, by the passing of three Acts, viz: the "Bankruptcy Act, 1869," "The Debtors Act, 1869," and the "Bankruptcy Acts Repeal Act, 1869."

Another subject which has for several years been advocated by this Chamber, viz., International Coinage, was again sanctioned by the Association, and it is hoped that the scheme will soon assume a practical shape, as it has been taken in hand by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Lowe), who in a speech in the House of Commons, on the sixth day of August last, sketched out for the consideration of the House and the Country, a scheme, which, if adopted by the Legislature, must greatly facilitate all transactions with Foreign countries, and even with our own colonies.

With reference to Tribunals of Commerce, a deputation to the president of the Board of Trade (Mr. Bright), received every encouragement, and, at his suggestion, a bill has been drawn by a Sub-Committee, which, if approved by the Association, will be submitted to Government, and it is to be hoped that this long desired improvement will soon obtain Legislative sanction.

The proposals emanating from Bradford with regard to the negotiation and prompt payment of foreign Bills of Exchange, were adopted by the Association, but owing to the difficulty of removing abuses of old standing, particularly if they are to the supposed advantage of great and influential houses, it will be necessary again and again to urge this matter until the object is accomplished.

The subject of Factory returns was incidentally mentioned, and the discussion which ensued, shewed the desirability of such returns being given annually, instead of at intervals of six or seven years as heretofore. This is one of the subjects which the Council will bring before the Associated Chambers at their meeting in February next.

The motion with reference to Belligerent rights at sea, which was brought forward by the Birmingham Chamber, and seconded by Mr Vice-President Law, was lost, by a smaller majority than heretofore, and it is therefore hoped that further consideration will convince its opponents of the justice as well as the

expediency of protecting, even during war, the interests of international commerce, so long as it is not intended to break a blockade, or to convey ammunition of war to either of the contending parties.

The Autumn meeting in Birmingham, at which the President (Mr. Behrens), Mr. Vice-President Law, Mr. Ripley and Mr. Hoffmann, represented this Chamber, was exceedingly well attended, but rather lacked the interest of the annual congress, as by the laws of the Association, new matter might be brought forward, but action could not be taken upon it unless no opposition was to be apprehended from any Chamber. Amongst the subjects which attracted the greatest attention, was that of which notice had been given by this Chamber, viz., the opening of the trade with Western China by means of the Yangtze River, and the Bradford memorial on this subject was unanimously adopted.

An encouraging account was given by Alfred Field, Esq., a member of the Birmingham Chamber, of the free trade movement in the United States.

Another new matter was introduced by the President of the Halifax Chamber (Col. Aykroyd, M.P.), viz., that of the necessity of appointing a Minister of commerce and agriculture. The Council hope that this much needed improvement in the Governmental arrangements will be speedily effected.

The meeting at Birmingham was so successful, that it was generally felt that the experiment of holding extraordinary meetings in the provincial towns should be repeated, and your President (certain of the approval of his constituents) invited the delegates to assemble in Bradford, in the Autumn of 1870.

BANKRUPTCY.

Amongst the subjects which year by year engrossed the attention of the Chamber, the improvement of the Bankruptcy Laws has occupied a very prominent place. The measure passed during the last session is an embodiment of the views which this Chamber has for many years advocated, and which may be described as the adoption of the main features of the Scotch system, by which it is to be hoped that the working of the new act will be as satisfactory as its authors anticipate, securing a fair division of the assets, without their being swallowed up by costs, whilst at the same time reckless trading will be discouraged by the provision, which requires (unless the creditors resolve otherwise) that Bankrupts must at least pay 10s. in the £, before they can obtain a final

release from their liabilities. It will not be necessary in this place to enter fully into the various provisions of this act, as a very clear and popular epitome of it has been prepared by Mr. Vice-President Godwin, which was published and sent to every member of the Chamber.

Your Council may however allude to the facts, that by this new Law the old Bankruptcy Courts with their cumbrous and costly machinery have been abolished; that the County Courts are now invested with full power to deal with Bankruptcies of any, not as heretofore of only a limited amount, and that the Creditors have it within their power to see to the proper distribution of the assets themselves, and therefore it will be their own fault if their interests are neglected.

The County Court at Bradford has thus become a District Bankruptcy Court, and under the gentleman who now so ably presides over that Court, the Council feel assured that the new Law will be administered with perfect fairness to all who may unfortunately be obliged to come there under his jurisdiction.

It may be satisfactory to the members to know that some very important features of the new Law have been adopted at the recommendation, if not at the suggestion of the Bankruptcy Committee of your Chamber, which under the presidency of Mr. Godwin has held numerous meetings, sent many memorials, and prepared many reports to the officials of the Government during the progress of this measure through Parliament. Copies of some of which are as follows:—

Report of the Committee appointed on the Bankruptcy Bill 1869, and the Bill for the Abolition of Imprisonment for Debt and Punishment of Fraudulent Debtors 1869.

Bankruptcy Bill.

The Attorney-General, on introducing the Bankruptcy Bill, stated "that the English system of Bankruptcy had substantially failed; and that the Scotch system had substantially succeeded. The conclusion naturally pointed to the adoption of the Scotch system, which had been more or less adopted by every bill based upon the report of the Commissioners; but the bill he was asking leave to introduce adopted the Scotch system more completely than any bill hitherto submitted to Parliament. The great merit of the Scotch system was its simplicity; the absence of officialism—allowing the creditors to administer the estates in bankruptcy by themselves and in their own way without interference, and with only the necessary supervision of the Court, and the separation of the administrative and judicial functions. These were the principles the Government proposed to adopt in the bill he was about to introduce. . . ." The desire to try the Scotch system in England is so general and so strong that your committee have only thought it necessary to inquire how far that system is embodied in the bill now before the House.

Rules of Court.

Many of the details which have rendered previous English bills so long, and also many of those in the Scotch Act of 1859, do not appear in the present bill. They are, however, to a great extent such as may very possibly be intended to be left to the rules of Court, which the Lord Chancellor, with the advice of the chief Judge in bankruptcy, is empowered to make by section 74, "for the effectual execution of the Act and its objects and the regulation of the practice and procedure of bankruptcy petitions and the proceedings thereon." This may be preferable, both on the ground of elasticity, and of simplicity, to encumbering the bill with a greater number of clauses, and adding unnecessarily to its length. But similar reasons would seem to point still more strongly to the desirability of so shaping the bill that the repeal of all previous Acts may be rendered practicable.

Trustee.

It was said on introducing the bill that the "trustee was not to be an official of the court; he might be anybody whomsoever they might select." The bill evidently by error provides that the trustee must be a creditor. This the Attorney-General has already given notice to rectify by inserting the words "or not," after creditor. Your committee would suggest whether, by also inserting the words "but not an official of the court," it might not be well to guard against the possibility of a habit growing up of recurrence to the system of official assigneeship. It was also said "the trustee would receive proof of debts, and would determine thereon, subject to an appeal to the Judge." This power may seem to some extent to be implied in section 37, or it may be left to be given or not, by rules of court, should it appear desirable. But as it was put forward as a feature of the bill, and as it is found to work advantageously in Scotland, it would appear desirable to place it beyond all doubt by embodying it in the bill.

Security for Composition, and Summary Proceeding in Case of Default.

Section 137 of the Scotch Act of 1859 renders it necessary that security should be provided before any offer of composition is accepted. In England, under one plea or another, means are often found to obtain the requisite assents to a composition without security, although such arrangements frequently lead to a second and reduced composition, and become in such cases little better than a gradual way of letting the creditors down. This your committee think should be rendered impossible, by assimilating the bill to the Scotch Act in this respect. And they would also urge that the proceedings upon open compositions, unpaid at maturity, should be rendered as summary, both against the debtor and his securities, as would be the case if composition notes were given.

Return by Trustee.

The bill provides for a return by the trustee to the comptroller or official auditor not less than once during the bankruptcy, or from time to time, as may be prescribed. In Scotland the return must be annual. Probably this will be met by rules of court, and at all courts the bill obliges the trustee to call a meeting of creditors, for the purpose of explanation, whenever six months pass without a declaration of a dividend; and also gives an appeal to the court to any person agrieved by any act of a trustee.

Contingent Debts.

Under the Scotch Act the power of voting only extends to the estimated balance of securities, whether specific or on bills of exchange; but for purposes of dividend the custom is for the trustee to rank a creditor for the whole amount, if a contingent debt, and set aside the dividend until it be ascertained whether the acceptor or primary obligant pays the debt, and thus removes the contingency. Your committee are not clear that the bill does not adopt the principle of an estimated balance for purposes both of voting and of dividend, but they think that in both respects the Scotch is the proper method.

Marriage Settlements.

In Scotland so many legal objections may be taken to the ranking of post-nuptial settlements that they cannot be relied on in case of bankruptcy. The bill proposes to put a stop to this source of litigation, and sometimes fraud, by making such settlements invalid if bankruptcy takes place within two years, unless solvency at the time of settlement can be shown. Your committee can see no reason why some modification of this rule should not be applied to settlements before marriage as well as after, made by parties insolvent at the time, should bankruptcy occur within either the same or some less term.

Adjudication—£50 limit.

Your committee do not concur in the objection which has been taken to the fixing of £50, as in Scotland, for the minimum of debt which is to render liable to bankruptcy, because any number of creditors may unite to form an aggregate amount of £50, and an aggregate under that sum could hardly be expected to yield assets that would cover expenses, so that where the aggregate is under £50 the present remedy would appear to be both simpler and cheaper.

After acquired property and final release.

The bill of 1867 recognised the liability of after acquired property at any time, on order of the Court, so far as to make up a total dividend of 10s. in the pound. The bill of 1868 recognised the same after liability at any time, and to the extent of any dividend the Court might think fit. The present bill, as proposed to be altered, gives an undischarged bankrupt protection for five years, but if by the end of that time he has not made up his dividend to 10s. in the pound, the balance of his debt may be enforced to such extent and in such manner as may be sanctioned by the Court which adjudicated him bankrupt, or in which his property is situated. Practically we apprehend that this may be subject to any compromise or other arrangement which the trustee and five-sixths of the creditors may sanction, under clause 4 of section 26, and may also be avoided by liquidation under arrangement with assent of a majority in numbers and five-sixths in value of all the creditors, under clause 1 of section 75. With respect to both these clauses your committee would express the hope that the required proportion of five-sixths will be maintained. Section 138 of the Scotch Act, requires a majority in number, and nine-tenths in value to be given to an offer of composition and security. A graduated scale has been spoken of in lieu of a fixed line of 10s., but your committee has not seen any one suggested that is feasible, and they prefer the plan now proposed to either that of 1867 or of 1868, believing that it gives the debtor a fairer chance, and at the same time affords the creditor a better prospect of making his dividend up to 10s. They would only add that they think it very desirable that the arrangement clauses of Moffatt's Act of 1868 should be incorporated in the present bill. And inasmuch as the bill places the administration of the estate entirely in the hands of the creditors, the creditors cannot possibly have any one but themselves to blame if improper trustees or inspectors are appointed.

Imprisonment for Debt Bill.

A separate bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt and for the punishment of fraudulent debtors, deals with the judicial powers which have hitherto in England been mixed up with distribution of assets, though separated in Scotland. Imprisonment for debt it is proposed to abolish in all cases with the following exceptions—penalties, sums recoverable summarily, attorney or solicitors under order to pay costs or acting in that case as officers of court, salaries for benefit of creditors under bankruptcy order, and county court orders for payment. But it will be observed that as to all other sums above £50 bankruptcy is available after a seven days' demand unsatisfied to approval of the court; and that as to sums under £50, County Courts are only to imprison, first, where default of payment under a county court order has occurred, after false pretence or fraud in obtaining goods, or concealing property; or, secondly, after refusal or neglect, with means to pay under the order of court. And further, the warrant must set forth the grounds of committal, and be made in open court. So that, practically, it comes to this, whether the debtor be rich or poor, the debt above or under £50, it is proposed to abolish imprisonment for debt in pretty nearly all cases, except for fraud and refusal or neglect after order of court.

The second part of the bill contains the grounds of fraud on the part of debtors, and also creditors in bankruptcy; and empowers the court on report of trustee, to order a prosecution by the trustee: the costs to be paid, not out of the estate, but in the same way as expenses of prosecutions for felony; or the court may order the case to be laid before the Attorney-General for his directions.

Your committee have not yet been able to give that careful examination to every clause of these bills which is desirable, but they are prepared to report in general terms that the Bankruptcy Bill is an honest and sincere effort to follow the Scotch Bankruptcy Act of 1859, and that it does so very closely and to a large extent, both in its principles and in its details. And they are of opinion that both parts of the Imprisonment for Debt Bill are entitled to your approval, subject to the modifications suggested, and any others that may be found to be desirable; they therefore recommend the Chamber to give to both bills their most earnest support.

(Signed)

JOHN V. GODWIN,

Chairman.

April 6, 1869.

TO SIR ROBERT COLLIER, M.P., HER MAJESTY'S ATTORNEY GENERAL.

The Memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

SHEWETH,—

That a bill is now pending in the House of Commons intituled
“A bill to consolidate and amend the Law of Bankruptcy.”

That your memorialists have petitioned the House of Commons in favour of the said Bill, as they approve of the general principle of its provisions.

That your memorialists would earnestly request that the following features from the Scotch system of Bankruptcy should be embodied in the said Bill, namely:—

1.—That the trustee should be empowered as in Scotland, to examine the claimant, bankrupt, or other persons concerned, on oath or solemn declaration.

2.—That it should be made a condition precedent to entertaining an offer of composition, that security be provided for its payment as in Scotland.

3.—That there should be a provision adopting the Scottish decree of registration against the bankrupt and his sureties for payment of the composition as in Scotland.

4.—That the duties and powers of the comptroller and trustee are not fully enacted in the statute itself as in Scotland.

That these amendments are desirable, inasmuch as creditors would be enabled to realize the assets of insolvent debtors' estates, at a much less cost than under the present system.

Your memorialists would strongly urge upon Her Majesty's Government, the absolute necessity for the passing of this Bill, as it is so much desired by the mercantile community, and your memorialists believe that the greatest amount of dissatisfaction will be felt if by any accident it does not become law during the present session of Parliament.

Bradford, 2nd day of June, 1869.

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS,

President.

John Darlington,

Secretary.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD HATHERLEY, LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR.

The Memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

SHEWETH,—

That your memorialists desire to express their satisfaction with the general provisions of the Bankruptcy Bill now before the House of Lords.

That there are many cases concluded without going into Bankruptcy, by Composition Deeds, the evils attending some of which are as great as those which have prevailed in Bankruptcy.

That your memorialists are glad to find clauses introduced into the Bill to give facilities for such deeds of arrangement, and to regulate proceedings under them.

That no doubt ample provision will be made by Rules of Court for carrying out the intentions of the Legislature as to such arrangement deeds, yet your memorialists would respectfully suggest to your Lordship that there is one clause in the 31 & 32 Vic., cap. 104, and proposed to be repealed by the Bill, intituled "Insolvent Debtors and Bankruptcy Repeal Bill," which your memorialists believe might very beneficially be introduced into the present Bill. They allude to clause 5 of that Act known as Mr. Moffatt's Act, the tenor of which is, in cases of composition, to give facilities to any creditor for the examination of the debtor or any other creditor before the Court.

That your memorialists believe that such a clause would be found a valuable provision in cases of suspected fraud or collusion on the part of the debtor or a fictitious majority of creditors, and the very existence of such a clause would, in many cases, operate as a deterrent check, inasmuch as your memorialists believe that the 5th clause of Moffatt's Act has actually prevented many fraudulent compositions during the short time in which it has been in operation.

There is also one other point which your memorialists think is not quite clear, viz., that the creditors voting at a meeting for a composition should be regulated by clauses similar to 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, in section 15, page 6, of the Bankruptcy Bill.

Your memorialists therefore respectfully draw your Lordship's attention to the above suggestions.

Bradford, July 14th, 1869.

(Signed)

JOHN DARLINGTON,
Secretary.

JOHN V. GODWIN,
Chairman of the Bankruptcy Committee of the
Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORDS SPIRITUAL AND TEMPORAL OF THE
UNITED KINGDOM IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The Humble Petition of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

SHEWETH,—

That year after year this and all other Chambers of Commerce have petitioned your Lordships' House for an amendment of the bankruptcy laws, which, in their present state, are a national disgrace.

That the Bankruptcy Bill of this session has the unanimous approval of all commercial men, who expect that if passed into law it will facilitate the collection and distribution of assets, render collusion and fraud less easy, and prevent bankrupts' estates from being wasted in useless costs.

That your petitioners learn with extreme regret that this important and most satisfactory bill, which has already passed the House of Commons, has been referred to a select committee of your Lordships' House.

That this regret is caused by the apprehension that this reference to a select committee may prevent the bill from passing into law during this session.

That your petitioners believe that no improvement which the most careful revision may introduce into the bill would be a sufficient ground for incurring the risk of deferring the passing of a law, the principles and details of which have been carefully considered and thoroughly approved of by those who are most deeply interested in its operations.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Lordships may be pleased to instruct your committee to make their report sufficiently early to remove the anxiety now felt by commercial men with reference to the fate of this important bill, the miscarriage of which would be considered a public misfortune.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS,
President.

The following memorial was sent to the Lord Chancellor, after the bill had received the Royal assent, in regard to the rules of Court :—

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD HATHERLEY, LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR.

The Memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

SHEWETH,—

That your memorialists desire to express their satisfaction with the provisions of the Bankruptcy Act, 1869, and especially with those clauses of parts 6 and 7 of the Act, by which all cases of arrangement and composition, binding upon a minority of creditors, are made subject as far as possible to the same principle and rules of proceeding as apply in cases of Bankruptcy.

That your memorialists are fully assured that the rules of Court, which will regulate proceedings under the act, will be framed with a view to that simplicity which is the object of the act, so that assets may be distributed by creditors themselves with only the necessary supervision of the Court.

That your memorialists therefore believe that under this act, a very large proportion of insolvent estates will be dealt with by arrangement or composition, in which case, by parts 6 and 7 of the act, a first general meeting for arrangement summoned by the debtor, may decide by special resolutions upon the question of arrangement, and also upon the choice of Trustee with or without a committee of inspection, or under composition. The first general meeting may, by special resolution, bind all noticed creditors, subject only to confirmation at a second meeting, by a simple majority in value as well as number.

Your memorialists, therefore, respectfully ask to be allowed to solicit your Lordship's attention to some details of procedure which they believe would be found of value in the working of the act.

Your memorialists respectfully submit that it is desirable that notice of all meetings, dividends, or compositions, and generally of all resolutions, should be given to creditors by post; and that it would afford additional security for the delivery of such notices, if they passed through the registrar's office.

That the place of meeting in arrangements and compositions made by trader debtors, should be the place in which the majority in value of trade creditors carry on their business.

That the forms of proxies should be as simple as possible, so that creditors may be able to execute them without the necessity of legal aid.

That the scale of fees should be limited to the necessary expenses of the Court.

That the power to inspect statements lodged by the debtor, should include the power to make a copy or extracts therefrom on payment of a small fee, and—

That all bankruptcy dividends should be payable by post, without the necessity of personal application, on the creditor giving authority and receipt.

Your memorialists would further respectfully submit that in the case of a secured petitioning creditor being called upon to give up his security on payment of his own valuation, by the Trustee, while on the one hand the Trustee should be required to make his decision within a reasonable fixed time, on the other, the Trustee should, in special cases, be allowed such further time as the Court may think advisable, as is provided in the case of disclaiming onerous property.

Your memorialists would further express the hope that it may be found compatible with the provisions of the act, to provide by rules of court that the debtor who summons a meeting for arrangement or composition at the same time the notice of meeting is given, should furnish each creditor, if not at that stage with a full statement of debts and assets, at all events with a list of the creditors summoned and their amounts, as this would enable creditors who might not be able to attend meetings held, for instance, in London or Manchester, to send their proxy where desirable to any other creditor who might be likely to attend.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

Bradford, 28th September, 1869.

(Signed)

JOHN V. GODWIN,

Chairman of the Bankruptcy Law Committee of the
Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

John Darlington,

Secretary.

WOOL SUPPLY.

Never since the formation of the Wool Supply Committee have its labours been more incessant than during the past year: Numerous letters with inquiries have had to be answered, samples of Foreign wool to be valued, and samples of English growth to be sent out to the Colonies and other places. The Committee, finding that their report which they had issued in 1861 required revision, determined upon issuing a fresh one, which has been printed, and distributed by various means through all our Colonies and in every other wool growing country. The Committee are glad to learn that this report and the advice therein given have been well received, and they trust that the encouragement which may thus be expected to have been given to the growth of long stapled combing wool will be the means of increasing the quantity and quality of wools required for our trade. The following is a copy of the Report and circular letter accompanying it:—

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR BRADFORD AND THE WORSTED DISTRICT.

Bradford, Yorkshire, July 27, 1869.

Address from the Council to accompany Report of the Wool Supply Committee of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, on Colonial and Foreign Wools.

Since February, 1861, when this Chamber issued their first Circular and Report on Colonial and Foreign Wools, they have had the satisfaction of receiving numerous letters from various countries, all acknowledging the value of the suggestions then made.

Frequent applications for further and more detailed information rendered a new issue of the Report necessary, and the Council decided upon publishing the annexed revised copy, embodying all the new facts which the Wool Supply Committee have been able to gather from the most reliable sources.

The importance of increasing the supply of Long Stapled Wool may be estimated by the fact that the demand for the goods produced from these Wools has fully kept pace with the immensely increased quantity of the home grown as well as of the imported supply.

While in 1861, 1,289,172 spindles and 43,048 power looms were employed in the production of Worsted Yarns and Goods, 2,193,210 spindles and 71,666 power looms were in active employment in 1868, and since then the ratio of increase in new machinery in this neighbourhood, and in many places on the Continent, is believed to have been still greater.

Thus there is every probability that the Worsted Manufacture will long be able to afford remunerating prices for any quantity of good, serviceable Combing Wool which the world may be capable of producing.

It is the desire of the Chamber to call the attention of all Flock Masters to the fact that Wool, to be fit for combing purposes, and to obtain the higher prices which such Wool commands, must possess qualities which in most instances can be imparted to it by close attention to the suggestions contained in the annexed report.

Before, however, going into details, it may be useful to draw attention to a few general observations on the qualities of the staple, which all owners of sheep ought to aim at, so far as the nature of climate, soil, and other circumstances may permit.

The Wool most in request and always fetching the highest price, has a staple from four to ten inches long, according to its fineness; it ought to be, as far as possible, uniform in quality throughout its whole length; bright and lustrous in appearance, or soft and kind to the touch; of good spinning qualities; and free from burrs or other vegetable fibre.

Where possible, the breed of sheep should be improved by the introduction of carefully selected English rams.

It is most desirable to obtain the whole natural length of the staple by only clipping the lambs or sheep once during the season's growth.

When the sheep cannot be pastured all the year round upon succulent grasses, a constant supply of artificial food will prevent the staple becoming tender.

The two last-mentioned points are of the greatest importance, for insufficient food during one season, and frequent clipping, more than anything else deteriorate the quality and depreciate the value of otherwise good and useful Wool.

The sheep should be well washed before they are clipped, and the fleece properly docked or cleaned.

It is also desirable that a proper classification of Wool should be made in packing, and that the packing itself be thoroughly trustworthy and honest.

This Chamber will at any time be ready to answer any enquiries, and give more special information to correspondents who may wish to increase the supply, or to improve the quality of their Wools.

They also offer their gratuitous services in the selection of Rams for Exportation.

Samples of English Wool, the quality of which all growers would find it their interest to approach, if they cannot equal, will be forwarded without charge to London or Liverpool, on a request to that effect being addressed to the Secretary of this Chamber.

On behalf of the Council of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce,

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS, President.

JOHN DARLINGTON, Secretary.

Report of the Wool Supply Committee of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce on Foreign and Colonial Wools, &c.

The Wool usually imported from thence is long stapled and bright, but troubled with a sprinkling of grey and reddish hairs, which depreciate the value. The sheep also, for want of attention, are apt to produce cotted and yellow tinged fleeces, which only realize in the English market about two-thirds the value of free open stapled white Wools. The Wool known here as "Castle Branco Wool" realises better prices, on account of the care and attention paid to the breed and management. The receipts from Oporto have increased considerably, but a good portion of the increase consists of Wool from a lower breed, and is called here "Mountain Oporto." This description is part long, very coarse stapled, and the other part of the fleece is short and dull looking Wool, unsuitable for same purposes as real Oporto, and realizing twenty-five per cent. less price. By attention this mountain Wool might be raised to same character as the usually good description received from Oporto.

1 OPORTO
and
LISBON.

The production annually is about 1,000,000 lbs. from Northern Districts, and about 750,000 lbs. from the Southern and Western Districts. The Northern being best adapted for combing purposes might with judicious crossing of breed, with a preservation of its lustre character, cause this Wool to become in favour for the Worsted Trade. Already it is manifest when some few flocks have been crossed with our English breed, the result has been a good lustre quality, without the rough and spiry hair at the end of the staple. The great fault for the past two or three years is the mixing of Skin Wool from Dead Sheep amongst the fleeces, which generally being short and of strong quality, cannot be used for combing purposes. Southern and Western, which are principally suited for Carding, are capable of much improvement in washing and condition, and where parcels arrive free from sand and a good colour they have realised within a 1d. and 1½d. per lb. of the value of Northern Wool. The effect of a cold climate acting upon sheep left to nature has been to produce a Wool consisting of a long, spiry, coarse top, with a fine downy bottom, which, for English consumers, is very objectionable and reduces the value; but this might to a great extent be obviated by feeding the sheep with artificial food during the winter months.

2 ICELAND.]

The Donskoi Wool does not appear to meet with the same care as the flocks of merino that have attained such perfection in Southern Russia. The Donskoi sheep is probably in a state of nature, or at least partially so, and the Crimean entirely so. Both these admit of great improvement, and by care and attention in giving artificial food during the severe weather, a long-stapled good combing wool of finer quality might be produced, and in consequence thereof become more valuable. We see that splendid flocks of merino have been created in Southern Russia during the last forty years, which give evidence of what the country is able to produce.

3 RUSSIAN.
Taganrog,
St. Petersburg,
and
Odessa.

Crossing with Leicester Rams would much improve these Wools for this Market. Hitherto they have been found to be very scurvy and kempy,* both are serious faults, but may be eradicated by good keep during the cold weather and attention to breed. They may be divided into three different classes, viz.: 1st, Servia and Bosnia, which is suitable for many purposes in the Worsted Trade; 2nd, Syrian, Smyrna and Persia, which is used for Carpets; and the 3rd Class, the Adrianople Wools, is principally employed by the French manufacturers for general dress goods. There is the basis for capital combing Wool, if the growers would cross with their own selected rams, or introduce English sheep.

4 TURKISH.
Constantinople
and Smyrna,
Asiatic, and Euro-
pean, including
Servia, Bosnia,
Nissa, Scutaria,
Scopia, Salonica,
Angora, Syria,
Persia.

- 5 **TRANSYLVANIAN WOOLS.** Very suitable for this market, and generally well got up; could be improved in length by crossing with half-bred Rams.
- 6 **ZACKEL WOOL.** A very suitable Wool for Moreens; would be more so if better washed. The grey Wools particularly are too dirty and wasty. All of them contain Burrs, which are very objectionable.
- 7 **WALACHIAN.** Very suitable for the Carpet Trade; could be considerably improved if crossed with Leicester Rams.
- 8 **BELGIAN, OR FLEMISH WOOLS.** Would suit our Trade very well if they were better washed and free from straw and lumps of dirt.
- 9 **DUTCH WOOLS.** Approaching in quality, length, and lustre nearest to our Lustre Wools. Would be generally used here if they were better washed and the breed kept up by crossing.
- 10 **EAST INDIA and PERSIAN WOOL.** Improvement has already commenced here, and a large field awaits full development. Each year our imports are collected from a wider range, and as we penetrate into a more temperate region, we find Wool of a longer and sounder staple, assimilating more closely to our English descriptions than the short hairy Wool that is usually grown nearer the Tropics. East India Wool has a tendency to be burry and scurfy, with a slight mixture of grey hairs. The staple is generally too short; but this might be improved by winter feeding and attention to breed.
Bombay and Kurrachee, imported from Bombay.
- 11 **EGYPTIAN.** This Wool has many good properties, and approaches very nearly to many classes of English. It is soft, bright, and silky, but sometimes is a little spoiled by grey hairs, and by shearing twice in the year. With attention to breed and regular keep this Wool might be greatly enhanced in value for Combing purposes. It would appear that much attention has been paid to this class of Wool during the last few years, and with marked improvement.
- 12 **MOGADORE** The Wool of this country is deficient in lustre, kempy,* and of a brownish colour, but by judicious crossing with English blood it could be brought to resemble our breeds, and find a large and remunerative market. Some improvements have already been made, and by still further attention to breed, washing and cleaning, a more valuable Wool might be produced.
- 13 **CANADA.** The bulk of this Wool appears to be a neglected Leicester, but it is capable of improvement. There is a tendency in some parts to cross the native sheep with United States merinos, but for the English market we recommend new Leicester rams, so as to impart length, lustre, and soundness to the staple. One great fault is the prevalence of burrs and seeds, which often depreciate the value considerably. Some imports have been irregularly packed, and it is very desirable that a regular classification of the fleeces should take place, so that the buyer or user may without difficulty select the different classes which he requires.
- 14 **CALIFORNIA.** At present the growth is exported almost exclusively to New York and Boston. We trust, however, that Californian Wool will, ere long, find its way to England. The sheep farmers profess to be able to raise any breed from Leicester up to pure merino. At present there is every variety of cross, with an infusion of United States merino.
San Francisco.
- 15 **PERU.** This Wool is long-stapled tender Wool, and is now very largely used here, and it is with pleasure that we note the improvement that has been made during the last few years; yet the Wool from this country is capable of being still further improved and rendered more valuable. The Lima Wool is better bred, and nearly approaches a combing Wool of middling to fine quality. Large quantities of long coarse carpet Wool are shipped from Valparaiso to the United States. The CHILIAN WOOL is also capable of considerable improvement.
- 16 **RIVER PLATE.** Of the Wool produced at the River Plate perhaps ninety per cent. partakes more or less of the Merino character; nearly all of it is short and weak stapled, and totally unfit for Worsteds purposes. Some flocks of Mestizero and Merino are sound and long-stapled, and are used freely by French

Combers; but there is plenty of room for improving the length of staple (particularly in the Banda Oriental), and a material increase in the value of Long Wool as compared with Short Wool of same fineness ought to be an inducement to growers. The proportion of short mushy low priced fine Wool, grown on the Southern Hemisphere, is annually increasing, and the relative value of long sound-stapled kinds must advance. Ten per cent. of River Plate Wool comprises Cordova, Santiago, San Luis, San Juan, Corrientes, and Creolla. These kinds have not improved of late years, in fact Cordova and Santiago have degenerated in appearance and usefulness, partly owing to a careless or fraudulent plan of washing, by which a quantity of damp mud left in the Wool dulls and weakens the staple. The former class of these Wools is also very much deteriorated in value by the wretched and fraudulent manner in which they are packed, the parcels often including not only mud and sand, but stones, cotton, hemp, and other fibrous materials. All these Wools lastly enumerated have a long wiry staple, more or less adapted for combing, and capable, by crossing with English sheep, of being very much improved in value and saleability.

How long will the River Plate growers confine their production almost entirely to Short Wool, when by increasing the length and soundness of the staple, even at some sacrifice of fineness, they could secure an additional outlet for the sale and at a higher price?

This Wool is usually soft and short-stapled, and does not appear like either fleece or lamb wool, and is generally cotted, kempy* and yellow; more attention seems to be required by the growers, which would no doubt effect some very beneficial changes in these Wools. Some years ago this Wool was specially reported upon in the proceedings of the Zoological Society. The notice, of which the following is an extract, was prepared by a gentleman then engaged in the Wool Trade in Bradford:—"These sheep breed twice a year, and produce four and sometimes five at a birth, three ewes in the Society's Gardens having produced thirteen lambs. These lambs are very easily reared by hand and are perfectly hardy. This Wool would be extensively used by the Manufacturers of this District for goods of low quality; and it appears to be suitable for Combing purposes. The Wool does not appear to offer any great inducement for its introduction; it is, however, highly probable that by cultivation and judicious crossing a great improvement may be fairly looked for. It is, also, to us a matter of the utmost importance that we should possess animals whose power of reproducing is greatest, in order to supply the increased demand." From the extraordinary fecundity of the sheep large quantities might be produced: Long-staple Wools will always find a ready market here and realise much better prices than the short Wools.

17 CHINA.

Chiefly Combing Wools, produced in a perfection unattained in any other part of the World. The flocks may in general be classed under two heads, the fine sorts, mostly of bluish colour, and the rough red Wools. With the former the combination of great fineness, length and soundness, must constitute the chief aim of the grower; with the latter, the production of great length and close growth. The Wool from this District known as half-bred, produced from a cross between Leicester and Merino, would find a great sale in this market, at prices very remunerative to the grower. Much of this Colony's Wool is got up in admirable style, but a proportion still reaches this market in a wretched state, owing partly to circumstances of climate and soil, and partly to the fact that the runs are overstocked.

18 PORT PHILLIP.

Chiefly clothing Wools, grown on some but comparatively few, stations in great perfection, but are still inferior to the superfine Silesian Wools. The good flocks are rare, the vast majority consisting of poor and faulty descriptions. The runs are greatly overstocked and often neglected.

19 SYDNEY.

This Colony produces Combing Wools, but mostly of ordinary breed and quality. The best flocks can hardly pretend to fineness. A very large proportion, chiefly grown in the North, is of a very loose mushy character, with hardly any formation of staple—this class is generally in wretched condition, the Wool being filled with red earth. Climatic circumstances, frequent drought, and the general scarcity of water, render the cultivation of Wool in these parts precarious and unsatisfactory. The better flocks make good Combing Wools.

20 ADELAIDE.

- 21 **NEW ZEALAND.** Large supplies of this Wool now come to the English market, and are very much in favour, especially the long-stapled Wools, usually termed the Leicester breed, which at the Colonial sales in London realise higher prices than much finer Wools. More care should be exercised in the washing and classing, the long and the short being kept separate in packing. This country, from its soil and climate, is peculiarly adapted for the production of deep-stapled Wool, partaking of many of the best properties of English Wools.
- 22 **THE CAPE.** Western Wools greatly deteriorated in growth, and often in wretched condition. Good long Wool of close growth and fair character may be produced, as some flocks still show, but the example is getting rare. The Eastern districts grow short Wools, and do not seem adapted for the production of a long article fit for Combing. The sheep should not be shorn oftener than once a year. A great portion of these Wools are now scoured and sent to London in good condition. The quality is middling; the growth poor and irregular. Seeds should be specially avoided. Several districts especially in Kaffraria, are very suitable for the growth of half-breeds, and Leicester and Lincolnshire long Wooled Sheep might be beneficially introduced.
- The cultivation of the Angora Goat is also claiming very great attention at the Cape. Several lots of pure Goats have been imported from Turkey, and more are going now. Those already imported have sold at good prices.
- 23 **NATAL.** These Wools are of fair character, and considerable attention is now being paid to their growth. In this Colony like New Zealand, it possesses great natural advantages. As deep-stapled Wools are most in request, the introduction of Leicester Rams would materially assist in producing this class of Wools.
- 24 **ALPACA.** A large quantity of this article received here is much shorter stapled than formerly, and consequently of much less value. It is very desirable that the length of the staple should be increased, and that more white Wool should be cultivated.
- 25 **MOHAIR.** There is a large demand for this article in this country. The goats should not be clipped before the Wool is fully grown, so that a greater length of staple might be attained. The custom of damping or watering the Wool deteriorates the value of this article. Small parcels have been received here from the Cape, the best of which have commanded good prices.
- 26 **CHINA GRASS**
(*Urtica Nivea*). There is a very large field opening for this article, which is daily becoming more valuable. Great progress has already been made within the last few years in adapting it for textile purposes. Almost any quantity would find a ready market in this Country.

* By Kempy Wool is meant the presence of short white hairs at the roots of the staple, which never take the dye, and disfigure all goods into which they are introduced.

BRADFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
July 21st, 1869.

JOSEPH ODDY,
Chairman of the Wool Supply Committee.

FRAUDULENT WINDING OF WOOL.

Notwithstanding that the Council had, on a previous occasion, obtained Counsels' opinion, by which they were informed that the Common Law afforded sufficient protection against fraud in packing wool, and that suits had been successfully maintained on the strength of that opinion, the evil itself showed no abate-

ment. The Wool Supply Committee therefore considered it expedient to call the attention of the wool growing community to the injury which they suffered by the deeds of a few unscrupulous men, and issued a circular, of which the following is a copy :—

CAUTION TO THE GROWERS OF WOOL.

The Council of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce have, for years past, had brought under their notice cases of negligent or fraudulent winding of wool, from which disputes of an unpleasant nature have arisen.

The Council have, therefore, decided (on the recommendation of their Wool Supply Committee) to issue this circular, calling the attention of all flockmasters to the injury caused to their own interests wherever such practices exist.

Wool is sometimes shorn in places containing chopped straw or chaff, when particles of the latter get mixed and cannot afterwards be separated from the Wool, to the great deterioration of its value; but the Council refer more particularly to cases of a more reprehensible character. Thus, loss arises from the sheep not being properly docked or clagged before clipping; from the dockings and cots being sometimes wound up in the fleeces; and from want of proper attention in cleaning the fleeces when clipping, so as to keep them free from tar, stones, sand, earth, clay, dung, straw, grass, or other substances.

This, which many years ago it was found necessary to guard against by special Acts of Parliament, frequently remains undiscovered for months, until the wool goes into consumption, and a notion has prevailed that by the repeal of these Acts of Parliament, the buyer has been deprived of his legal remedy. The Bradford Chamber of Commerce have, however, in conjunction with the Worsted Committee of Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire, taken the opinion of an eminent Counsel on this matter, and they are assured *that the purchaser of such Wool has a remedy at Common Law quite as effective as he formerly had by Statute.* Actions have been brought, and damages recovered, both in the Assize and County Courts.

It is to be hoped that Flockmasters will take due precautions against the recurrence of these acts of negligence on the part of their servants, which tend to destroy that confidence which should exist between the growers and consumers of Wool.

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS,

President.

John Darlington,
Secretary.

Bradford Chamber of Commerce,
Exchange, Bradford,
May 20th, 1869.

The Council are happy to state, that according to the information gathered from the best informed parties, that circular has had the desired effect of reducing the evil by the influence of public opinion alone. The Woolstaplers are unanimous in their opinion, that Wools have never been so fairly packed as in the Autumn of 1869.

The President took advantage of this opportunity, to address a Circular letter to the Presidents and Chairmen of the newly established Chambers of Agriculture, many of whom courteously acknowledged the receipt of the Circular, offering in return their hearty co-operation in the many objects which Chambers of Commerce and Chambers of Agriculture must have in common.

THE BRADFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Exchange, Bradford,

May 20th, 1869.

SIR,

I have great pleasure in handing you enclosed Circular, with the request that you will bring its contents under the notice of the gentlemen over whom you preside.

You will perceive the importance of the subject it treats of, and that by carrying out its recommendations the best interests of the grower, as well as of the consumer of wool will be promoted.

Allow me, at the same time, to congratulate the Agricultural community on having decided upon combined action for the protection of their interests, in the same manner as the Commercial body have done for the furtherance of theirs. I only express the sentiments of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce in stating that its members cannot conceive the possibility of Agricultural and Commercial interests ever being antagonistic. On the contrary, they are convinced that if one prospers or suffers, the other must be affected in an equal degree.

I hope, therefore, that means may be found for frequent interchange of ideas, and for united action on all those great questions, common to both interests, upon which the material and social welfare of this country so largely depends.

Assuring you, therefore, that on any occasion upon which you may require the co-operation of this Chamber, it will be heartily afforded.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) JACOB BEHRENS,
President.

POSTAL REFORM.

On reviewing the action taken with reference to Postal matters, it may be stated, that they have been more or less discussed at almost every meeting of the Council, and have formed the subject matter of several memorials of which the following are copies :—

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON, M. P., HER
MAJESTY'S POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The Memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

SHEWETH,—

That the trade of this district with the Peninsular has for ages given employment to a great number of operatives, and a vast amount of capital used to be profitably employed in it.

That this trade has not been in a satisfactory condition of late, owing to causes which do not come under the cognisance of your Lordship's department.

That, however, the commercial relations between England and Spain and Portugal labour under considerable disadvantages and difficulties, from the want of some postal facilities, which are afforded to England's greatest competitors, viz.: to Germany and France.

That amongst the most useful and valuable aids to commerce which can be given by the Post Office is the cheap and frequent transmission of samples and patterns.

That patterns may be sent from Germany to Spain for one Silber Groschen per $1\frac{1}{4}$ ounce, or less than 1d. per ounce, whilst there is no pattern post in England for Spain at all.

That in Germany, patterns may be sent to Portugal daily, at the same rate as to Spain, whilst the English Post Office conveys them only twice a month, by Packet.

That your Memorialists feel that it only requires to draw your Lordship's attention to this grievance to be certain of its immediate removal. They therefore pray—

That you may be pleased to enter into an arrangement with the Imperial authorities, by which the forwarding of patterns and samples, via France, may obtain the same facilities which are afforded to the manufacturers of Germany.

Bradford, 26th October, 1869.

(Signed)

HENRY W. RIPLEY,

John Darlington,
Secretary.

Chairman of the Postal Committee of the
Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON, M. P., HER
MAJESTY'S POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The Memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce

SHEWETH,—

That not only your memorialists, but all parties interested in the trade with the Continent of Europe, are greatly inconvenienced, and frequently injured, by the irregularities in the delivery of that part of the foreign correspondence which is served by the Ostend packets.

That hardly a week passes without this correspondence being more than once in arrear, whilst that served by the Calais boats is almost invariably in time.

That the losses caused by these delays create great dissatisfaction on the part of the sufferers, who attribute the grievance to the direction which is given to their correspondence by the Post Office authorities.

That their cannot be a doubt of the Calais route being the one which fulfils all the requirements which can be desired, and that it offers superior advantages even for correspondence with the greatest part of Belgium itself.

That the only objections to the Calais route is the regulation by which the simple rate of postage is limited to $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce, instead of $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce as via Ostend.

That your Memorialists are, however, of opinion that even this objection may be easily removed, by a convention with France, and they therefore pray

That your Lordship may be pleased to give directions that letters to the North of Europe, not specially directed by the sender, via Belgium, may in future be sent by way of Calais, and that if possible the rate of postage by either route may be equalized.

Bradford, October 26th, 1869.

(Signed)

HENRY W. RIPLEY,

John Darlington,
Secretary.

Chairman of the Postal Committee of the
Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON, M. P., HER
MAJESTY'S POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The Memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

SHEWETH,—

That, whilst your Memorialists fully acknowledge the efficient manner in which the Post Offices in this country perform their duties, they must beg leave to draw your Lordship's attention to many improvements which foreign governments have introduced in the service.

That your Memorialists have compared the last edition of the Handbook, published by the Post Office Authorities of the North German Confederation, and the Year-book for 1869, published by the office in France, with the last Quarterly Post Office Guide, published here, and have the honour to lay before your Lordship the result of their investigation in the two extracts marked A and B.

That the privileges enjoyed by the corresponding public in Germany and France may be classed under the following heads:—

- 1.—Money and all kinds of valuable property may be sent with guarantee on the part of the Post Office to any part of the Continent, and even to England on payment of a moderate charge.
- 2.—Patterns and samples may be transmitted to countries for which we do not yet possess the same facilities.
- 3.—Printed matter and trade circulars are transmitted more cheaply than here.
- 4.—An improved system of money orders gives greater facilities for the carriage of parcels which are delivered by the post to the addressee on payment of the declared value.
- 5.—Amongst many other minor advantages, the one most prized, is that allowing the sender of a letter, in Germany, to post it up to the last moment of the train's departure, without any additional charge.

Bradford, 26th October, 1869.

(Signed)

HENRY W. RIPLEY,

John Darlington,
Secretary.

Chairman of the Postal Committee of the
Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

EXTRACT A.

Postal Arrangements in Germany.

The figures in the margin refer to the page in the Handbook for 1869, published by the Postal Service of the North German Confederation.)

- 5 Letters and parcels, if wrongly directed, may be returned to the sender on his presenting a duplicate of the address and seal, or in the case of a registered letter, the receipt.

Delivery of a letter already sent off may be stopped by a telegram, on conditions which render an abuse of the facility, or a fraud, next to impossible.

- 8 Objects marked "Express," are delivered by special messenger immediately on arrival, on payment of a small fee (from 3d. upwards, according to distance from the office.
- 11 Postage for lost objects is returned by the Post Office, also of such objects which are refused by the addressee, on account of their having become injured in transitu.

If a sender doubts the delivery of an object posted, he may send what is called "an open requisition," which must be answered by the Post Office at the residence of the addressee. If the object has been properly delivered a charge of 2d. is made.

The Post Office guarantee the proper delivery of money, of parcels with or without a declaration of their value, of letters containing declared values, and of registered letters and parcels.

If by a delay in the delivery an object has lost its value or part of it, the Post Office is responsible for the loss or damage.

- 12 Parcels, the value of which has not been specially declared, are, if lost, paid for at the rate of 3s. for every pound weight.

A registered letter, if lost, entitles the sender to the payment of £2 2s.

- 13 The sender of a registered letter may receive a certificate of delivery for 2d.

- 19 The Post Office grants Telegraphic Post Office Orders, even to some foreign countries.

- 19 The Post Office undertakes the delivery of objects not exceeding £7 10s. in value against the payment of the declared amount. (Post Vorschuss).

- 25 The Post Office guarantees the safe delivery of letters and parcels containing money or valuables, for a small per centage upon the declared value, not only within all Germany and Austria, but even to most foreign countries, for instance:—

To Belgium, Denmark, France (2d. for £4), Greece, Great Britain (by arrangement, not with our Post Office, but with the Parcels Companies), to Italy, Holland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain (like England by arrangement with private parties), to Turkey, the United States, and all Asia, in connection with French Steamers. The rates vary according to distances, but they are very moderate, for instance:—

- 71 £75 may be sent from Erfurt to London for 7s. 3d.

- 40 Great facilities are afforded for the transmission of patterns, and of single circulars, or similar printed matter.

1½ oz. are forwarded for ½d. (in England there is nothing below 1d. rate).

- 41 Patterns may be sent from Germany to Spain for 1 Sgr. per 1½ oz., whilst we have no pattern post to Spain, and must employ an agent in Paris for the forwarding of pattern parcels.

- 46 In Germany, patterns may be sent daily to Portugal for 2d. per 1½ oz.

From England they are only forwarded twice a month by packet.

The postage of a letter from

- | | |
|----|--|
| 45 | The Rhenish Provinces to England is 3½d. |
| | From Westphalia „ 4d. |
| | From England to these places 6d. |

The postage from Germany to foreign countries is frequently lower than in England, even when due allowance is made for difference of distance:—

From England to Russia	9d.,	from Germany 4 Sgr.
„ Belgrade	6d.,	„ 1 „
„ Moldavia	7d.,	„ 2 „
„ Constantinople, 6d., 8d. & 9d.		„ 3 „
„ Egypt	6d.,	„ 3 „

The charge for late letters is entirely unknown in Germany.

Letters may be dropped into the boxes attached to each train up to the last moment of starting.

EXTRACT B.

Postal Facilities in France.

(The figures in the margin refer to the pages in the Year-book of the French Postal Service, for 1869.)

- 3 A letter wrongly directed may be corrected, by the sender presenting the exact copy of the address and of the seal.

A letter may be returned to the sender on the fulfilment of very strict conditions.

- 9 The Post Office pays to the sender of a registered letter, if lost, £2.

Letters containing valuable property may be insured by simply writing the value (which must not exceed £80 for each letter) on the address. The Post Office paying the declared amount in case of loss.

- 7 Tariff for such values (besides regular postage) is 10 cents for every 100 francs, or 1 per mille.

- 13 Patterns and prints of all descriptions must be prepaid,—if insufficiently stamped, the fine is three times the amount of the wanting stamps.

- 14 Notes, having the character of a letter, may be written upon the patterns or papers enjoying the privilege of a reduced postage, by a prepayment of 20 cents (2d.).

Tariff of the French Post Offices.

			cents.	d.
A letter.....	up to 10 grammes ($\frac{3}{4}$ oz.) within the neighbourhood.	10	..	1
„	15 „ (1 oz.) within Paris	10	..	1
„	10 „ ($\frac{3}{4}$ oz.) in France and Algeria ..	20	..	2
Circulars, price lists,				
photographs	10 „ in the immediate neighbourhood.	5	..	$\frac{1}{2}$
„	10 „ in the neighbourhood.....	10	..	1
Circulars, prospectuses,				
catalogues, books	5 „ in France	1	..	$\frac{1}{10}$
Periodicals, non-political				
publications	20 „ in the department	1	..	$\frac{1}{10}$
„	20 „ in the Empire.....	2	..	$\frac{1}{5}$
Political Journals	40 „ in the same department.....	2	..	$\frac{1}{5}$
„	40 „ in the Empire.....	4	..	$\frac{2}{5}$

116 Registered letters may claim a certificate of receipt, on payment of 20 cents, from Germany, Holland, and Switzerland.

257 Single letter to Spain 40 cents for $7\frac{1}{2}$ grammes, or 4d. for $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

Registered „ „ 80 „ $7\frac{1}{2}$ „ 8d. „ $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

Patterns „ „ 16 „ 40 „ $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. „ $2\frac{2}{3}$ oz.

Circulars „ „ 28 „ 40 „ $\frac{3}{4}$ d. „ $2\frac{2}{3}$ oz.

The last memorial sent was one praying for a general revision of the Bradford Post Office arrangements, and requesting that an official might be sent down to inquire into the grievances, which were stated in a separate memoranda.

TO THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON, M.P., HER MAJESTY'S
POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The Memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

SHEWETH,—

That the trade of Bradford has increased more rapidly than that of any other town in the United Kingdom.

That the Post Office arrangements have not kept pace either with the growth of the town, with the important interests to be served, or with the amount of the revenue which the Treasury derives from its correspondence.

Your memorialists have appended hereto, memoranda referring to several grievances, to which they would respectfully draw your Lordship's attention; and they would suggest and ask your Lordship that a gentleman from your department, possessing your Lordship's confidence, be sent to Bradford to meet your memorialists, when they believe they will be fully able to prove to him the

great necessity which exists for an early re-arrangement of the working of the Bradford Post Office, and for the improvements suggested in the memoranda, and more especially at this particular juncture, when the telegraphic business will have to be conducted by the officials at the Post Office.

Bradford, January 5th, 1870.

(Signed)

HENRY W. RIPLEY,

John Darlington,

Secretary.

Chairman of the Postal Committee.

Memoranda to accompany Memorial from the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, dated January 5th, 1870.

The Bradford Post Office is yet, according to the Post Office scale, a fourth-rate one, although it is believed that the receipts from the town itself, are greater than in any other provincial town, Manchester and Liverpool only excepted.

That it is believed that the number of foreign letters and pattern parcels passing through the Bradford Post Office, are very much greater than at Leeds, and no other part of the service requires a closer attention, and a more experienced staff.

In a town where the salaries and wages of clerks and workmen are as high as in any other, it is only possible to obtain and retain good servants by offering them a fair remuneration, with the prospect of improvement.

The parliamentary estimates shew that with respect to the number employed, their pay and prospects, the Post Office in Bradford is placed in a worse position than the neighbouring town of Leeds.

That the insufficient numbers of the staff, and the frequent changes in its members, necessitating the engagement of inexperienced clerks, delays the despatch of business, and deprives the public of postal facilities which it has a right to expect; one of these being that the Post Office has to be closed for the night mail to London, as early as 7.30 p.m., although the train does not leave until 9 o'clock.

The mid-day mail which now also closes ten minutes sooner than formerly, has become so important that with the whole strength of the present staff employed, it becomes nearly impossible to get the bags to the Great Northern station at 12.40.

Many complaints have lately reached this Chamber, that letters duly posted at night for Lancashire and Scotland, do not arrive in due time; serious inconvenience and even considerable losses have been the consequence.

On investigation, it is found that the letter bags do not arrive at Huddersfield in time for the London and North Western train, which has to forward them to their destination.

The mail closes at Bradford at 8.45 p.m., leaves at 9.20, and should arrive at Huddersfield at 10.25, sufficiently early for the London and North Western train, which is due there at 11 p.m.; but, although the distance between here and Huddersfield by road is no more than eleven miles, it frequently takes more than two hours by rail.

The train to Huddersfield goes via Halifax, has to wait at Brighouse for a Manchester down train, which is frequently late, and hence the failure of juncture and the delay in delivery in Lancashire and Scotland by a whole working day, and in the case of Friday night (for all commercial purposes) until Monday morning.

The same complaints are frequently made with reference to the London mail, that is, the mail for which the second night despatch is made up here, and which is intended to join the day mail from Scotland.

An easy remedy for both complaints would be if the bags were sent direct to Huddersfield, and not via Halifax, and were not made dependent on the arrival of the down train from London. In fact, if the mail from here to Huddersfield were conveyed by horse and cart instead of rail, the service would be performed more punctually than it is now.

Frequent complaints have also been made that pattern parcels intended to be sent to or through France, are returned without any reason being assigned except that the patterns are too large.

The senders can obtain no definite instructions how to avoid the repetition of these unpleasant occurrences, and it is suggested that it would be in the interest of the public and of the postal service if the limits within which patterns are allowed to be transmitted by the French offices were exactly defined.

The information, as at present given, is so vague that neither the Post Office clerks nor the traders know what may be sent as a pattern and what not.

It is believed that the Bradford houses have never employed the pattern post as a carrier of valuable merchandise, but all have more or less suffered from the vexatious annoyance already adverted to.

Bradford, January 5th, 1870.

(Signed)

HENRY W. RIPLEY,

Chairman of the Postal Committee.

John Darlington,

Secretary.

FRENCH TREATY.

Complaints having been frequently made to this Chamber that goods declared at their full value at the French Custom Houses had been seized, and that the *Expertise* which was its consequence occasionally led to injustice through the want of knowledge of our tissues on the part of the experts, an unofficial correspondence ensued with the authorities at Boulogne, which led to the appointment of a Committee, whose duty it will be to carry out the following Resolution:—

“That whenever it is desired by both parties, this Chamber offers the services of a Committee to give an opinion in case of disputed value between the Custom House Authorities at Boulogne and the Houses engaged in the export of Bradford goods to France.”

The question of the renewal of the French Treaty having excited a large amount of public attention, your Council considered it to be their duty to institute a searching enquiry into the effects which the Tariff resulting from that Treaty has had upon the Worsteds Industry of this District and of France. The Council considered the subject of sufficient importance to call a general meeting of the members, for the purpose of discussing the question necessarily arising from the present position of the matter, and the following memorial, prepared by the Council, was, after considerable discussion, unanimously adopted by that meeting, and has been forwarded to the Board of Trade and the Foreign Office.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORDS OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL FOR TRADE.

The Memorial of the Council of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, and of Bankers, Merchants, Spinners, and Manufacturers of Bradford, in Public Meeting Assembled.

SHREWETH,—

That the expiration of the term for which the Treaty of Commerce with France was concluded, appears to your memorialists a fitting time for a review of the effects which that treaty has had upon the worsted trade of this district, and upon that of France.

It is only fair to acknowledge that, owing to peculiar circumstances, and notwithstanding a highly protective tariff, a trade of a certain importance has been created between this district and France by that treaty, but not by any means to as large an extent as its framers expected.

If, therefore, the Spinners, Manufacturers, and Merchants of Bradford are not satisfied with the results of the treaty, it is not surprising that other towns and trades are loud in their complaints, and ask for a revision of the Treaty, such as shall give to their industry the same chances which we have not hesitated to allow to that of France.

Your memorialists, while sharing that desire, feel so persuaded of the benefits which the most unrestricted freedom of trade confers upon all who adopt it, that they would hail, with the greatest satisfaction, the removal of all and every remnant of obstruction to the free intercourse between every other nation and ourselves which may yet be retained in our fiscal system. It is therefore with no desire of advocating any retrogressive measures, that they consider it their duty to bring under the notice of your Right Honourable Board—

1.—The conditions under which the worsted trade is carried on in France and in England, shewing that they are, if anything, more favourable in the former country.

2.—The injurious effects of the existing tariff upon the industry of both countries, and—

3.—The necessity of a thorough revision of the treaty tariff in a liberal spirit.

The worsted trade of France being in a great measure concentrated within the district of Roubaix, as that of England is in the neighbourhood of Bradford, the data, to which reference is made in this memorial, will be principally taken from the statistics of these two towns.

It cannot be denied that the prosperity of Roubaix, its rapid growth, and the improved condition of its working population, have received a most powerful impulse by the removal of the prohibitive system, under favour of which, formerly, the industry of the district enjoyed an artificial existence.

The treaty rendered it necessary for the manufacturers of Roubaix to employ the latest inventions and improvements in machinery, and to seek their remuneration rather in the profits from large returns, than from the exorbitant prices which their former uncontrolled command of the home market allowed them to impose upon the French people.

They conformed to the altered conditions of trade, and with characteristic intelligence and energy achieved so signal a success, that in lieu of having, as formerly, only a sale in French markets, they now extend their operations to all parts of the world. The fortunes which are commonly ascribed to the owners or commanditaires of the newly erected factories, are a proof of the success which has attended their well-timed and intelligently conducted undertaking.

What the withdrawal of prohibition and a timid approach to free trade policy have done, will be patent from the fact that, in 1858, Roubaix possessed at most 1,000 power-looms, whereas, in 1867 their number was estimated at 15,000.* Or as it is stated in the official account of the French Exhibition, 1867 :—

“France possessed in 1855, at most, a few hundred power-looms, this day more than 20,000 are at work on the manufacture of merinos, mousseline de laine, flannels, and mixed stuffs.”

While in Bradford, on account of the high rate of wages, it has been found necessary to discontinue the use of hand-looms, the deputation of artisans who visited Roubaix in 1867, were informed that an immense number of hand-looms yet exist in that district.†

The power-looms at work in Roubaix are all of the newest and most improved construction, and are equal to the best of those working in Bradford, and the French report on the International Exhibition of 1867 states :—

“That the results of this new machinery has been to increase the exports of mixed stuffs, to England alone, from 10,776,000 francs in 1861, to 37,549,000 francs in 1866, whilst the total of such goods exported to all parts of the world was, in 1861, 56,278,000 francs, and in 1866, 110,126,000 francs.”‡

Wages are lower at Roubaix than at Bradford. The “Dictionnaire de Commerce” states the earnings of weavers to be from 2 francs to 2 francs 50 centimes per day, or 10s. to 12s. per week of 72 hours work, whilst they are from 16s. to 20s. for 60 hours work, in Bradford.

* Rapport du Jury, International, 1867, par Mons. M. Chevalier, vol. 4, page 129.

† Artisan's Report, page 394, say 200,000, on the authority of Mons. Leclercq Dupiere.

‡ Rapport du Jury, International, 1867, par Mons. M. Chevalier, vol. 4, page 128.

The shuttles move as rapidly at Roubaix as they do at Bradford, consequently, each weaver ought to do 20 per cent. more work at Roubaix than at Bradford.

A greater production from the same amount of fixed capital, together with lower wages, must enable the Roubaix manufacturer to produce his tissues much cheaper than his Bradford competitors.

The only material required for production which is cheaper at Bradford is fuel. Here the cost of coal is about 7s. to 8s. per ton, and is said to be somewhat higher at Roubaix; but, as the whole expense for fuel in weaving a piece of Orleans cloth, worth 32s, is only 1 $\frac{1}{5}$ d. (Appendix, A), the advantage which Bradford possesses in this respect is not worth mentioning, even if coal should be twice as dear at Roubaix.

The natural taste of the French, combined with the daily intercourse of the Roubaix manufacturers with Paris, the acknowledged ruler in the realm of fashion, give to Roubaix almost the monopoly in the production of fancy dress goods.

The command which Roubaix manufacturers have over power and handloom weaving alike, enables them to produce not only the same articles as Bradford, but many others which cannot be made in Bradford at all. The manufacture of many kinds of reps, furniture stuffs, and pure wool goods, has thus been abandoned in Bradford, but remains a very important item in the trade of Roubaix.

The exports from France to England of mixed stuffs were, in 1868, 17,171,385 francs, and of stuffs of various kinds, of which a great part was probably also the produce of Roubaix, 23,546,580 francs, against which the imports of mixed stuffs into France from England were, in the same year, 32,566,895 francs. In the amount of English exports, mixed woollens of all kinds are mixed up with worsteds, while no mixed woollens are sent from France to England; and it is believed by those best qualified to form an opinion, that the export of worsted mixed goods alone, has of late years never exceeded the amount of 25,000,000 francs—an estimate which is fully confirmed by deducting from our Board of Trade returns the amount of Worsteds goods passing through France to Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and the East.

It would, however, be a mistake to consider the exports of stuffs as the only articles in which France competes with Bradford.

Of the 37,658,348 francs worth of merinos which France exported in 1868, England alone took for 20,737,946 francs.

If we were thus to keep a debtor and creditor account, taking even the whole of stuffs exported as going into consumption in France, the account would stand thus:—

Exports from France to England	fr. 61,455,911.
Exports from England to France	fr. 32,566,895.
Excess in favour of France	fr. 28,889,016, in worsted goods alone.

An extract from the statistical tables of the Board of trade for 1868, shews how fully France has taken advantage of the opening of the English market for the disposal of her productions. Appendix B shews that we have—

Imported from France, agricultural produce	£6,829,710.
Exported to " "	476,849.
Imported from " wines and spirits	3,170,754.
Exported to " beer and spirits.....	26,537.
Imported from " articles necessary for manufactures	5,419,664.
Exported to " " "	4,884,085.
Imported from " wholly manufactured articles....	15,173,585.
Exported to " " " "	4,038,517.
Imported from " sundry other articles	3,292,614.
Exported to " " "	1,226,746.

Shewing a balance in favour of France of the productions of both countries of £23,233,593, or 580,839,825 francs.

And yet, notwithstanding these facts and figures, the manufacturers of Roubaix and other towns complain of the treaty, and are clamorous for more protection.

The protection now given to French manufacturers on goods similar to those produced in this district, is 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, if wool, and 15 per cent. if cotton predominates.

The duty of 10 per cent., if levied under the pretence of protection to native industry, is excessive, for it amounts to 3s. on a piece of stuff worth 30s.; and it is shewn in Appendix A that the weaver's wages for such a piece varies from 2s. 4d. to 3s., according to the value of the material used.

The possession of a bright long-stapled wool, which is grown in Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and two or three other counties, has enabled the manufacturers of Bradford to produce a variety of articles well adapted to the requirements of France, and that, notwithstanding the 10 per cent. duty, a *certainly not large and by no means increasing quantity* of these articles are sold in France. But the sale of the heavy and cheap articles, containing more cotton than wool, is almost entirely prevented by the 5 per cent. additional duty.

The small quantity of such goods which is nevertheless imported into France, affords no criterion for estimating the amount which would be taken if an unreasonable tariff did not impose the higher duty upon the cheaper article.

The great mass of the low and middle classes of French women are thus deprived of a cheap, warm, and most useful material of clothing which is peculiarly adapted to their tastes, and to the climate of France.

Having thus far dwelt upon the disadvantages under which the manufacturers of Bradford labour, in consequence of an onerous tariff, it must be allowed that the manufacturers of France have reason to complain of another part of the same tariff, which imposes a duty on the importation of yarns.

That duty represents in many cases from 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ to 75 per cent., of the cost of converting the combed wool into yarn, as shewn in Appendix C: and on several articles of mixed stuff, the duty on cotton warp, and worsted weft together, amounts to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the whole cost of the piece, as shewn in Appendix D.

The manufacturers of Roubaix have thus been obliged to abandon the production of this kind of tissues on account of the duty.

That the worsted spinners of France require no protection, is best shewn by the fact that the number of spindles at work, which was estimated at 1,300,000 in 1862, was believed to be 1,750,500 in 1867;* and that the exports of worsted yarns, which amounted in 1861 to 502,593 kilos, value 6,562,593 francs, increased in 1866 to 1,542,445 kilos, of the value of 22,906,460 francs—an increase of 250 per cent.

Some of the largest establishments at Roubaix state with just pride, that they are almost exclusively working for the English market.

The duty on wool fabrics has therefore no justification whatever, and if it may have been expedient to impose it for a certain time as a means of allowing the manufacturing interests to adapt themselves to the new and more natural order of things, the above mentioned facts prove that French industry has long since outgrown the necessity of special state support.

Your memorialists, therefore, venture to hope that the duties on yarns, as well as on piece goods, will alike be abolished by France; or, if another step towards free trade be deemed more expedient by her legislature, that the duty on all kinds of wool goods, with or without admixture of cotton, be not above 5 per cent. *ad valorem* for a few years longer, as the last step towards entire abolition.

Bradford, 17th January, 1870.

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS,

President.

John Darlington,

Secretary.

APPENDIX (A).

Calculation of the cost of fuel expended, and the amount of wages paid for the weaving of a piece of Orleans worth 30s., in the grey.

Total number of pieces woven during October, November and December, 1869	41,925
---	--------

Total cost of engine coals for the same period, including cartage to works (being at the rate of 8s. to 9s. per ton) ..	£186 7 11
--	-----------

1 $\frac{1}{15}$ d. cost of fuel per piece.

The weaver's wage, in a piece of white Orleans worth 30s. grey, varies from 2s. 4d. to 3s. per piece, according to the value of the material used (the higher class having a less quantity of picks) in 30s. value.

N.B.—These figures are taken from the book of an eminent manufacturer, whose coals are dearer than they would be in the immediate vicinity of Bradford.

* Rapport du Jury, International, 1867, par Mons. M. Chevalier, vol. 4, page 115.

APPENDIX (B).

IMPORTS FROM FRANCE, 1868.

Articles of Food and Agriculture.

	£		£
Animals	118,158	Rape Oil	151,283
Butter	2,156,824	Pork	17,901
Eggs	900,635	Potatoes	308,873
Corn and Flour ..	1,550,310	Poultry and Game..	60,595
Fish	91,843	Rhubarb	22,275
Fruit	254,805	Truffles	64,723
Hops	149,776	Vegetables	40,790
Oil Cake.. ..	417,610	Seeds	506,598
Olive Oil	16,711		<hr/> 6,829,710

Articles required for Manufacturing purposes.

	£		£
Asphaltum	26,304	Madder Root	6,569
Cotton, Raw	60,590	Oil of Turpentine ..	51,539
Cotton, Yarn	29,117	Rags	33,092
Cream of Tartar..	62,393	Silk	3,590,853
Feathers	54,259	Skins, tanned	19,125
Flax	29,960	Veneers	40,294
Gerancine	275,263	Wool	99,424
Hair	166,094	Woollen Rags	85,335
Hemp, Yarn	55,277	Linen Yarn	13,686
Hides, tanned ..	333,924	Resin	64,253
Iron, Wrought ..	92,343		<hr/> 5,419,664
Madder	229,970		

Manufactured Articles.

	£		£
Books	61,746	Paper and Paper	
Manuf. of Bronze	43,464	Hangings	110,617
Buttons and Studs	47,962	Straw Plating	39,305
China	85,205	Sulph. of Quinine ..	17,065
Clocks	215,310	Sugar	1,158,059
Corks	73,625	Silk Manufacture ..	8,403,099
Cotton Manufs. ..	718,991	Toys	29,995
Embroidery	41,407	Watches	183,677
Artificial Flowers	336,789	Woollen Manuf. ..	1,483,558
Furniture	52,140		<hr/> 15,173,585
Glass, &c.	263,687	Spirits	1,294,873
Hats and Bonnets	103,707	Wine	1,875,881
Lace	200,011		<hr/> 3,170,754
Leather Manuf. ..	1,195,055	Other Articles	3,292,614
Linen	37,359		<hr/> 33,886,327
Musical Instrmnts.	201,607		
Opera Glasses ..	70,145		

EXPORTS TO FRANCE, 1868.

Agricultural and Natural Produce.

	£		£
Copper	260,390	Provisions	43,403
Fish	98,882	Horses	74,174
			<hr/> 476,849

Articles for Manufacture.

	£		£
Alkali	62,585	Machinery	380,812
Cement	60,570	Naphtha	30,595
Coals	872,568	Painters' Colors ..	38,974
Copper	343,623	Silk	436,487
Cotton Yarn ..	256,366	Tin	144,309
Iron	504,053	Wool	349,064
Lead	62,716	„ Yarn	893,561
Oil Seed	175,100	Yeast	36,123
Linen Yarn ..	236,579		<hr/> 4,884,085

Manufactured Articles.

	£		£
Apparel	89,403	Leather	67,865
Arms & Ammunition	156,358	Linens	189,880
Books	29,722	Plate	31,222
Mnfr. of Ind. rbbr.	116,065	Wool Manufactrs.	1,908,308
Cottons	1,105,316	Silk	92,408
Drugs & Chemicals	96,063		<hr/> 4,038,517
China	35,473	Beer and Ale	24,704
Cutlery	120,434	Spirits	1,833
			<hr/> 26,537

All other Articles..... 1,226,746

10,652,734

APPENDIX (C).

Relation of Duty to Cost of Spinning Worsted Yarns.

28 Mottled Yarn, duty 60 cents., spinning wage 80 cents., duty 75 per cent.	
32 " " 60 " " 90 " " 66 ² / ₃ "	
36 " " 70 " " 100 " " 70 "	

Of 2-fold Yarns not colored, the duty is calculated to be about 50 per cent. of the spinning wages, and—

Of 2-fold Dyed Yarns, to be equal to 75 per cent. of the spinning wages.

APPENDIX (D).

Approximate relation of duty on Yarns to the value of several kinds of low worsted goods.

Low Mottled, worth 19s. 6d., 48 yards.
Single 40's Cotton Warp, and 30's Mottled Worsted Weft.

Warp $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Duty $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Weft 4 lb.
Duty 3d.

Duty $6\frac{1}{4}$ d.

Duty 1s.=1s. $6\frac{1}{4}$ d.—Or rather over $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Victoria Mottled, worth 27s. 6d., 48 yards.
Double 60 Cotton Warps and 22 Mottles Worsted Weft.

Warp 3 lb. 5 oz.
Duty $3\frac{3}{4}$ d.

Weft $6\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Duty $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Duty 1s. $0\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Duty 1s. $4\frac{1}{4}$ d.=2s. $4\frac{3}{4}$ d.—Or rather over $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Black Orleans, worth 30s., 40 yards.
Double 120 Cotton Warp, and 42 Lustre Worsted Weft.

Warp 1 lb. 14 oz.
Duty 9d.

Weft 4 lb. 13 oz.
Duty 2d.

Duty 1s. 5d.

Duty 10d.=2s. 3d.—Or $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Glace, worth 28s., 40 yards
Double 100 Cotton Warp, and 32 Tinted Worsted Weft.

Warp 2 lb.
Duty $6\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Warp 5 lb.
Duty 3d.

Duty 1s. 1d.

Duty 1s. 3d.=2s. 4d.—Or nearly $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

CHINA.

The attention of this Chamber having been drawn to the importance of opening the trade of Western China by the navigation of the Yangtze river, the following report and memorial were adopted, to which a favourable reply was received from Her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs:—

Report on the Opening of the Upper Yangtze, by the Tariff Committee of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce deputed two of its members, Messrs. Michie and Francis, to accompany Mr. Consul Swinhoe, on his journey of exploration on the Upper Yangtze, and the report they have presented to their Chamber is of the highest interest to British commerce, full of observations such as could only be made by men practically acquainted with the requirements of trade.

Their report is completed by another from Lieutenant Dawson, R.N., who was entrusted by the Commander in Chief, Sir Henry Keppel, with the duty of surveying the course of the river, with the view of finding how far it is navigable on its upward course; and who appears to have accomplished that task in a highly satisfactory manner.

They found that steamers may navigate the river at all seasons, as far as Ichang, about 1,100 miles from Shanghai, and that a direct trade may thus be easily established with Western China, especially with Szechuen, a province, the population of which the delegates estimate at between 30 and 40 millions.

The expedition started from Hankow, the first large trading town on the river, and one of the free ports. Its success as an emporium of trade has been sufficiently great to justify the opinion that trade with China can be extended to almost any amount, if European enterprise were allowed to invigorate and stimulate that of the natives.

But this magnificent river is as yet only navigated by frail junks, which occupy, even at the most favourable seasons, two months, between Hankow and Chungking, and the trade on the upper part of the river is carried on by freight boats, hauled by hand, which, according to the graphic description given by the Honourable J. Ross Browne, late U. S. Minister at Peking, are even an improvement upon the former practice. At other seasons, goods must be sent by a very circuitous route, the difficulties of which are such that the business with Szechuen is then reduced to a very small compass. For valuable goods may, on such occasions, be sent by the mountain roads, but that mode of transit is too expensive for general merchandize. Land carriage is in a most primitive state, and according to the authority already quoted, is carried on by means of coolies, camels, wheel-barrows, and small waggons.

Illegal exactions on the passage of goods, called "squeezes," are a kind of black mail levied by the mandarins, and indefinitely enhance the price of commodities.

The trade in the interior is generally in the hands of close guilds, or Honges, whose arbitrary laws and complicate usages render it extremely difficult for foreigners to transact business.

The opening of every new port, or the establishment of an additional Consular Agency, has hitherto been followed by the removal of some of these hindrances, and consequently we may expect that the adoption of some such measure would produce the same result for the trade of the Upper Yangtze, which the opening of Hankow has had for the lower part of the river.

The opening out of this the richest province of China, to British commerce, is a matter well deserving the attention of all Chambers of Commerce, and of ours in particular.

The delegates consider that the places best situated for the development of a profitable trade on the Yangtze, are either Shasi or Ichang.

Shasi is the next large market after leaving Hankow, and the Commission saw at least 40,000 tons of shipping at the river side.

The shops are large and well furnished with goods; principally with long Ells and Camblets.

Between Shasi and Ichang the delegates found a greater number of populous places than lower down the river.

Ichang,

363 miles from Hankow, is the seat of a Provincial Governor, but the town is as yet inferior to Shasi in commercial importance; although by its position, at the point where the river ceases to be navigable for steamers drawing more than 7 to 8 feet, it is, in the opinion of the delegates, destined to become a most important centre of trade.

It is therefore recommended that the place should be made the seat of a Consul, and that every facility be given there for connecting the trade of the Lower Yangtze with that of the Upper, either by steamers built expressly for this trade, or by the construction of a railroad.

Chungking,

The commercial capital of Szechuen, which, although not ranking amongst the largest cities of China, has a circumference of five miles, without any open space within the walls, and is situated on the confluence of two large rivers, and has a population of half a million.

The city is well built, the shops and houses are large and substantial, and everything about the place is suggestive of prosperity, which fully corresponds with the reputation it enjoys, as being incomparably the largest mart of Szechuen.

Although there are many other important places in that province, each of which is the centre for special branches of trade, yet it appears that Chungking, from its commanding geographical position, is more essentially the emporium of Szechuen than London is of England, and that its trade fairly represents, not only that of Szechuen, but of the whole of the Upper Yangtze.

Cotton is imported largely for domestic manufactures, but there is besides a settled trade in piece goods, both cotton and woollen.

It is often said that in China, a demand for woollen goods is a criterion of prosperity; and in Szechuen, woollens, as compared with cottons, are more extensively used than in any other part of that country. Long Ells, Camblets, Lastings, Spanish Stripes, Figured Orleans, Medium Cloths, Damasks, Brocades, Crape Lustres, and Imitation Crape, are amongst the woollen articles found in the shops of Chungking, but the risk and cost of carriage from Shanghai, or Hankow render them too dear for general consumption.

The difference between the wholesale prices in Shanghai and Chungking was found to be about 20 per cent.

The delegates expect that foreign merchants will be well received at Chungking, but that they will be obliged to do their business through the established hong, or guilds, which appear to be at the present time as powerful here as they formerly were at Canton. There are 15 such guilds.

The Banks at Chungking are as well organised as they are at Hankow, and in fact all over China, and are ready to grant and pay drafts to any amount, on and from any place in China.

Well may the Chamber of Commerce of Shanghai observe that the opening of such a mart as that to foreign trade, would create a demand for English manufactures which would amply repay any trouble, risk, or expense entailed on the Government in making it a port of trade.

The products which Szechuen can give us in return for our goods consist of the following articles :—

SILK, both yellow and white, which is grown more or less in every part of the country, and the delegates were assured that its production was susceptible of indefinite extension: the cultivation not interfering with other crops, as the mulberry trees grow on the hills in places which are not available for ordinary agricultural purposes.

SALT is produced in large quantities.

SUGAR is another of the staple products of Szechuen already largely exported to Hankow.

HEMP of two kinds are grown: one the *Böhméria nivea*, the China grass so largely worked up in this neighbourhood, is gathered three times in the year.

TUNG OIL is largely sent to Hankow, and in 1868, 200,000 cwt. were re-exported from there in foreign vessels.

TOBACCO grows luxuriantly in nearly every part of Szechuen; the crop is gathered once a year, and in many places rice is planted on the ground after the tobacco has been cleared off.

WAX, Safflower, Rhubarb, and Tea, are amongst the other important products of Szechuen.

The mineral wealth is great, and consists of copper, both red and white, spelter, tin, quicksilver, lead, iron, silver, and gold, and the innumerable articles classed in China under the head of medicines, add to the list of natural products which the country can give in exchange for our manufactures.

The province is self-supporting as regards food, and the only necessities which its people do not sufficiently produce are clothing, particularly woollens.

Now this rich province, as large as a first-rate European kingdom, inhabited by an industrious, prosperous, and well-disposed people, and accessible from the sea, is shut out from all direct intercourse with the outer world, not by natural, but by artificial and therefore removeable impediments.

Among the principal hindrances to the development of such a trade the expense of carriage is the greatest. The report calculates the cost of conveying goods from Shanghai to Chungking at

3s.	for every piece of Shirting and Tea Cloth.
4s. 3d.	Drills.
6s. 7d.	Long Ells.
12s.	Camblets.
7d.	for every yard of Spanish Stripes.
60s.	for every bale of Raw Cotton weighing 2 cwt.

Every advance in price limits consumption in China, and the great problem for those who desire to extend trade in this particular locality is therefore how to reduce the expense of carrying goods from Hankow to Chungking?

This is proposed to be done by establishing regular steam communication between Hankow and Ichang, on a watercourse which presents no difficulties of navigation; and the report further suggests that "if foreign ingenuity could be permitted to open a road through the 360 miles which divide Ichang from Chungking, either by steam on the river or by railway, the benefit to the government and people of China would be enormous."

The province of Yunnan and Kweichow would then also be brought in contact with Europe.

The idea of railways or steamboats above Ichang appears, however, not to be entertained for the present, but the report advocates that the right of residence at Chungking should be insisted upon; that a Consul should be appointed at Ichang; that measures be taken to secure to British subjects all the privileges which were secured by the Treaty of Tien Tsin, and that the duties be not augmented by illegal exactions.

Article xii. of that treaty permits British subjects to build or open houses, warehouses, churches, hospitals, or burial grounds, not only at the ports, but at all other places.

According to Article xiv., British merchants have the right to hire an unlimited number of boats (whether propelled by steam, wind, or oars) for the transport of goods and passengers; and according to Article xxviii. no other duty shall be levied between the port and the inland markets than those named in the tariff, with a transit duty not exceeding $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *ad valorem*, and that a certificate of such payment shall exempt the goods from all further inland charges whatever.

Your Committee are glad to learn from the answer given by Sir R. Alcock to the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, that he believes the desired opening of subsidiary ports may be secured: the custom house of each treaty port having jurisdiction within certain limits, which appear to extend to Chungking and other even more distant places. The same answer states that the objection of the Chinese Government to steamers only applies to the inland waters not hitherto open to foreign vessels, and that steamers belonging to natives and hired by foreigners may navigate the Upper Yangtze without let or hindrance.

There cannot be a doubt, therefore, that a proper use of these treaty rights, and a careful study of the wants and habits of the country, would enable us to establish commercial relations equally advantageous to the people of China and ourselves.

Your Committee consider it their duty, however, to impress upon the trade the necessity of great caution in taking advantage of the opening of any new port in China, and they beg to draw attention to a very instructive statistical table which is appended to the report, shewing the growth of, as well as the violent fluctuations in our exports to that country.

It establishes the fact that every new facility given to trade has tended to its ultimate development, but that indiscriminate overstocking of a newly opened market has invariably produced most disastrous consequences.

The exports of British produce to China, which in 1840 were limited to £524,198, rose in 1845, in consequence of the Nankin Treaty, to £2,394,827, but fell again in 1854 to £1,000,716, advanced to £2,876,447 in 1858, kept steady at about £4,400,000 during the three years of 1859-61, when other three years of depression were again succeeded by a considerable increase so as to swell the amount of 1868 to £7,621,644, or, according to our Board of Trade returns, to £8,498,147.

A very gratifying feature of the Chinese trade may be gathered from the statistical tables of the Board of Trade, which shew that in 1854 we exported to China only £990,716 worth of British produce, but imported from thence to the amount of £9,125,049, paying for the difference partly in silver but principally in opium; while in 1868 we exported £8,498,906 British goods, of which £1,387,957 were wool manufactures, against an importation of Chinese productions valued at £11,717,369.

Your Committee therefore recommend that a memorial be presented to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, setting forth the facts contained in their report, and praying that it may please his Lordship to take such measures as would ensure the opening of Western China to our commerce, by obtaining from the Government of China a loyal execution of its treaty obligations, and by such other means as Her Majesty's Government may deem fit to employ for the attainment of so important an object.

Bradford, 30th November, 1869.

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS,
Chairman.

John Darlington,
Secretary.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF CLARENDON, K.G., HER MAJESTY'S
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The Memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

SHREWETH,—

That the trade of this district with China is very important, giving employment to a large amount of capital and to great numbers of operatives engaged in the manufacture of articles such as are adapted to the requirements of that country.

That hitherto the opening of every new market, in that vast Empire, has increased the demand for the products of our factories, so that the exports of worsted and woollens, which in 1849 was £370,878, has advanced to £1,387,957 in 1868.

That the report made by the Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai, of an Exploring Expedition on the Upper Yangtze, which was undertaken by command of the Commander in Chief, Sir Henry Keppel, has drawn the attention of your memorialists to the great importance of the trade which might be developed, if the people of Western China were allowed free intercourse with the outer world.

That your memorialists believe nothing more to be wanting to the peaceful and steady progress of this trade than the honest fulfilment of the conditions contained in our treaties with China.

Your memorialists therefore pray that it may please Her Majesty's Government to facilitate the access to Western China, by strongly urging a loyal execution of treaty obligations on the part of China, and by further negotiations, if such should be considered necessary for the attainment of so important an object.

Bradford, December 2, 1869.

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS,

President.

John Darlington,
Secretary.

Since then, news has reached your Council of the conclusion of a new Treaty with China, which will have to be seriously considered, as it appears to have a very important bearing upon our commercial relations with that vast empire, and must exercise an influence for good or evil in proportion as its provisions may be found wise or the contrary.

COLONIAL TARIFFS.

The following report and memorial, prepared by the Tariff Committee, were adopted by the Council, and a copy of the latter was presented to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Colonial Tariffs.

The subject of Colonial Duties having been referred to your committee by the last meeting, they have taken the subject under their most serious consideration, and beg to recommend that steps be taken to obtain from the Legislatures of the different colonies a more equitable arrangement of their commercial intercourse with the mother country. Your committee being of opinion that though new communities in thinly populated countries, may find the imposition of a moderate duty on imports the most convenient mode of collecting the necessary revenue, it is not fair to the mother country, and contrary to all her recent legislation, to make those duties so high as to render them protective, and thus to call into life undertakings which can only exist by favour of such protection, and at the expense of the great mass of consumers in the colony. Your committee therefore beg to submit the following draft memorial to Lord Granville, for the adoption of the Council :—

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL GRANVILLE, HER MAJESTY'S
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

The Memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

SHEWETH,—

That it appears highly important to your memorialists (the Council of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce), that the attention of Her Majesty's Government be called to the anomalous fiscal regulations which have been adopted by several of our colonies.

That some of them impose duties on imports far in excess even of those which Her Majesty's Government is even trying to get reduced, or entirely abolished, on the part of foreign nations.

That your memorialists acknowledge that in young communities and thinly populated countries a small tax on imports may, for a time, offer the most expedient mode of raising the necessary revenue.

That your memorialists are, however, of opinion that whenever these duties are increased to a point where they act as protection, and in consequence create manufacturing industries for which the country is not otherwise adapted, they divert the flow of labour, industry, and capital from more profitable pursuits.

That the result of such artificial creations is the establishment of monopolies, at the expense and to the impoverishment of the great mass of consumers.

That your memorialists, who believe that the adoption of free trade principles has improved the prosperity of every people in proportion to the more or less perfect manner of applying them, are of opinion that a contrary policy has more than anything else prevented the growth of our commercial intercourse with several of our colonies.

That your memorialists are justified in drawing this conclusion from the tables published by the Board of Trade, from which it appears that while our exports of British produce to foreign countries and India have increased from £73,826,574 in 1854 to £155,430,719 in 1868, or 110 per cent., those to the dominion of Canada have fallen off in the same period from £5,980,876 to £4,847,560, and the exports to Australia have remained stationary, notwithstanding the great increase of the population which has taken place there since 1854.

Believing, therefore, that protective duties are equally injurious to the best interests of the colonies and of the mother country, your memorialists pray that representations may be made to the various colonial Legislatures, with the view of placing the commercial legislation of all parts of the empire upon an equitable and satisfactory footing.

Bradford, 1st of October, 1869.

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS,
President.

John Darlington,
Secretary.

The following reply was received to the foregoing memorial :

DOWNING STREET,
7th October, 1869.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 1st instant, enclosing a memorial from the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, in favor of a revision of Colonial Tariffs, I am directed by Earl Granville to state that in the principal British Colonies it rests with the Colonial Governments to determine on what principles the Revenue is to be raised. Her Majesty's Government are not only alive to the advantages which would accrue to the commerce of this country by a reduction of customs duties, but believe it would be beneficial to the colonies to reduce all such customs duties as are excessive or of a protective character. The Colonial Governments cannot be unaware of the views entertained by the Government and people of this country on the subject.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

John Darlington, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce,
Bradford.

FREDERIC ROGER.

AUSTRIAN TARIFF.

This subject has occupied the attention of the Council at several meetings, one of which was attended by Sir Louis Mallet, C.B., on behalf of the Board of Trade, and it is satisfactory to know that the representations then made have led to alterations in the classification of Woollen Goods, which appear to have given satisfaction to the trade, inasmuch as no complaint has since reached the Council with reference to any unfair classification on the part of the Austrian Custom House authorities.

SPANISH TARIFF.

A new Tariff having been promulgated by the present provisional Government of Spain, your Council considered it their duty to examine its bearings upon the industry of this District, and while reporting with pleasure the removal of some of the absurd regulations which were highly objectionable in former tariffs, they were sorry to find that the present rate of duties shew no advance towards the adoption of a more enlightened commercial policy on the part of Spain. It is to be hoped that our Government will seize the first fitting opportunity to enter into negotiations with Spain and Portugal, in consequence of which the commercial relations between us and these two countries may be rendered more conducive to the true interests of all. The following is the report presented by the Council :—

Your committee have received a copy of the new Spanish tariff, which came into force on the 1st August last, and have to report as follows:—

Spanish Tariff.

The new duties which principally interest this district are—

Carpets.....	per kilogram	0.700	escudos equal to	$7\frac{3}{4}$ d.	per lb.
Blankets	"	0.900	"	"	$9\frac{3}{4}$ d. "
Plain Stuffs, all wool } and mixed..... }	"	2.000	"	"	1s. 10d. "
Thin cloths, kersey- } meres, &c..... }	"	3.200	"	"	2s. 11d. "
Thick common cloth	"	2.500	"	"	2s. $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. "
Coarse napped do. do.	"	0.600	"	"	$8\frac{1}{4}$ d. "

The differential duty in favour of Spanish ships, which used to be 25 per cent. of the duty, has been reduced to an addition of 1s. per 100 kilogrammes : privileges in the shape of exemption from duties, or the return of duties paid have been granted to ship-builders instead. It is also matter of congratulation that the former vexatious clause with regard to the exact proportion of one-third part of cotton is not contained in this new tariff, though the wording of the decree is by no means clear as to the exact rates of duty applicable to mixed goods. The decree accompanying the tariff appears to assume that the duties imposed represent generally, as nearly as can be, 20 per cent. of the value of goods, and orders that those which do so shall be reduced to 15 per cent. in 1875 ; and that the rates upon woollens and worsteds shall be reduced by three instalments until they also represent 15 per cent. in 1881.

Your committee regret to have to report that the reduction actually made upon the goods manufactured in this district is so very trifling that no increase in trade can be expected on this ground. Orleans, which previous to May, 1868 (when the tariff was temporarily raised), paid a duty of £10 11s. 5d. per cwt., pay now £10 3s. per cwt., which, according to their average value, is equal to 50 per cent. On heavy woollens and common blankets the duty will be no less than 100 per cent. The committee cannot, therefore, congratulate the Spanish Government upon its great progress on the road to free-trade, but trusts that a more settled state of public affairs in the Peninsula, and a readiness on the part of our Government to meet the reasonable demands of Spain and Portugal with reference to the wine duties, will find these two countries prepared to make alterations in their tariffs beneficial to them and us alike. The committee therefore recommend that the Council support the Halifax Chamber of Commerce and its president (Col. Akroyd, M.P.), in their endeavours to urge upon Her Majesty's Government, the desirability of a revision of the basis upon which our wine duties are levied.

Your committee have received from the President of the Associated Chambers, and the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Tariffs, a circular suggesting that a strong memorial be presented to Her Majesty's Government on the alteration of the wine duties, and they ask permission to prepare and send one in furtherance of this object.

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS,

Chairman.

BRAZILIAN TARIFF.

The Council having been informed that a new Tariff had come into force on the 1st of July last, and our Government not having given the usual notice of the change, your Council obtained a copy of the new Tariff from Brazil, and requested the Tariff Committee to prepare a report thereon.

Report, by Tariff Committee, on the New Brazilian Tariff.

The copy of this tariff had to be obtained from Brazil, no translation of it having been published in the *Gazette*, probably owing to its bulk and the cost of translation. The document itself yields to no similar one in copiousness, for it contains no less than 1275 articles, with numerous subdivisions. Wool tissues are alone subject to as many as 105 special rates, imposed upon articles of which a great many have such obsolete names that even experienced native importers, who have been consulted, did not know their meaning. The duties are, or are supposed to be, based upon a per centage of their value. All wool tissues are subject to rates of duties said to represent thirty per cent. *ad valorem*. These rates are further increased by five per cent.—not upon the amount of duty levied, but upon the supposed value of the goods. Thus, one-sixth part is added to the tax on Orleans, which, as shewn in annexed table, is originally 1.650, augmented to 1.925, equal at the present rate of exchange to £8 3s. 4d. per cwt.; or to at least forty to forty-five per cent. of their values. On merinos, serges, and similar articles, the duty amounts to fully a hundred per cent. *ad valorem*. The duties are payable in the at present very depreciated paper currency, which, if it should advance to par, would increase the present rates by nearly fifty per cent.; or, in other words, every improvement in the condition of the country will impose higher taxes upon the necessities of life, which the Brazilians must import, and in consequence reduce the purchasing powers of the people. It is however understood that the Brazilian Government might not be indisposed to reconsider their tariff, if they were met by a reduction of duties here on their two great articles of export—sugar and coffee. The trade with Brazil is one which well deserves the attention of Government, as shown by the statistical tables published by the Board of Trade, which give the imports from there in 1867 as amounting to £5,902,011, and our exports of British produce to £5,822,918.

Tariff of Brazil, from 1st July, 1869.

			Addn.	Per lb.		Per cwt.		
				s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Alpacas, Orleans, &c.....	Kilos.	1.650	1.925	1	5½	8	3	4
Bazetas	"	.450	.525	0	5	2	6	8
Bazetellas, Flannels	"	1.200	1.400	1	1	6	1	4
Ditto printed	"	1.600	1.866	1	5	7	18	8
Bareges, Lenoës	"	3.000	3.500	2	8	14	18	8
Blankets, scarlet	"	.650	.760	0	7	3	5	4
Ditto other colours	"	.500	.580	0	5	2	6	8
Ditto printed	"	.800	.966	0	9	4	4	0
Damasks	"	2.300	2.680	2	0	11	4	0
Lastings	"	1.300	1.516	1	2	6	10	8
Merinos, Prints, Serges	"	2.800	3.266	2	6	14	0	0
Cloth, Pilots, Castors, &c. . .	"	1.000	1.166	0	10½	4	18	0
Ditto of other kinds	"	2.000	2.333	1	9	9	16	0
Wool, Velvet	"	1.200	1.400	1	1	6	1	4

Since then, the oppressive rates contained in the said Tariff, dating only from the 1st July last, were again increased on the 1st of January, 1870, by 40 per cent., thus threatening one of our most important trades, if not with extinction, at all events with a great diminution. The Council trust that Her Majesty's Government may see fit to enter into negociation with the Imperial Government of Brazil, with a view of obtaining lower duties, and believe that such may be obtained by giving to the British consumer the benefit of a cheap breakfast table by the reduction, if not of the entire abolition, of the duties on coffee and sugar.

ZOLLVEREIN.

In the last annual report, it was stated that the representations made by this Chamber to the Board of Trade respecting the difficulties and troublesome formalities to which goods in transit through Prussia to Austria were subject, had been partially removed, but a hope was expressed that a final and satisfactory answer would be received. This expectation has been thoroughly realized by the receipt of the following letter:—

C. 267

OFFICE OF COMMITTEE OF PRIVY COUNCIL FOR TRADE.

23rd February, 1869.

Sir,

With reference to the letter from this department of the 26th ult., relative to the regulations in force as to the transit of goods by rail through the Zollverein, I am directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for trade, to acquaint you, for the information of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, that their Lordships' have received from the Secretary of State for Foreign affairs, a copy of a note which Count Bismarck has addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Berlin, on this subject.

It is stated in this communication, that the Custom House regulations allow goods in transit from Hamburg for Austria, to be forwarded by goods train without declaration and bond, in a compartment under seal; that the Custom House Administration will extend these regulations for facilitating the despatch of goods to the traffic carried on by fast trains, as soon as the Railway Administrations, which it concerns, shall find it in their interest to establish the necessary measures for forwarding goods in compartments under seal by the fast trains, and that the Custom House Administration, in respect of obligations imposed by the issue of a permit, does not take into retrospective consideration, the foreign owner of the goods.

It further states that the Prussian minister of finance, who is charged by treaty with the administration of the customs in Hamburg, relative to goods destined for the Zollverein or passing in transit through the Zollverein, has, after hearing the Hamburg authorities, had no observations to make in addition to the foregoing remarks, which are in accordance with the existing laws and the actual state of the case.

It is added, that a bond (*acquit-a-caution*) is required for goods in transit through France, in similar cases to those in which a permit (*Begleit-schein*) is demanded in the Zollverein, and that the French *acquit-a-caution* is essentially the same as the German *Begleit-schein*.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

LOUIS MALLET.

The Secretary,
Chamber of Commerce,
Bradford.

TRADES UNION BILL.

Government having undertaken to introduce a Bill on this subject during next session, and having by a short Annual Bill placed the funds of trades unions under the protection of the law, the Bill which Mr. Mundella and Mr. Hughes had introduced was withdrawn, and the Council did not think it expedient to express an opinion upon so important a subject; but believing that it will soon become their duty to express such an opinion, they have appointed a sub-committee for the purpose of advising with a certain number of workmen (unionists as well as non-unionists), and trust that the labours of this committee will lead to a conclusion just and fair to all parties interested in the momentous question.

MINISTER OF COMMERCE.

The necessity for the appointment of a Minister of Commerce has been long felt, but the Council have decided to defer action in this matter until it is brought under the notice of Parliament by the Associated Chambers of Commerce.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF 1871.

A circular has been received from the Royal Commission of 1851, in reference to an Exhibition of Arts and Manufactures in 1871, at which no other textile fabrics are to be shewn except woollen and worsted. The Council expressed their readiness, if so desired, to co-operate with the Royal Commissioners, and asked a number of questions for the information of the public, accepting at the same time the offer of a deputation to explain more fully the scope of the Exhibition. A satisfactory answer was received, and the Commissioners promised to visit Bradford during the coming spring.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA BILL.

On the Duke of Argyll introducing a Bill into Parliament for the better Government of India, the Council considered it a fitting opportunity of expressing their opinion that the interests of trade and commerce ought to be better represented in the Council entrusted with the Government of India than has heretofore been the case. The following petition was therefore adopted, and the subject ought not to be lost sight of by the Chamber, for there cannot be a doubt that the trade of this District with the hundreds of millions of our fellow subjects in India is capable of a much greater development than it has hitherto received:—

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, IN
PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The Humble Petition of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce,

SHEWETH,—

That your petitioners learn with great satisfaction that the Government of India Act Amendment Bill, which the Duke of Argyll, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, had introduced in the House of Lords stands for consideration in Committee, in your Honourable House, on the 5th July.

That your petitioners fully approve of the 1st clause of the said Bill, vesting the sole appointment to the Council for India in Her Majesty's Government, in lieu of allowing the Council to elect seven out of the fifteen members.

That your petitioners also fully approve of the 2nd clause of the said Bill, limiting the term of office held by members of the Council for India to ten years, instead of appointing them for life as at present.

That your petitioners expect great advantages will ensue from the admission of younger and more active men into a Council, now exclusively composed of old Indian servants, whose average age is between 60 and 70 years.

That the India Board as at present constituted, comprises no member whose past experience enables him to appreciate, still less to foster, a trade which might be developed between 30,000,000 European and 170,000,000 Indian subjects of Her Majesty, if its importance was duly recognized by the Government of India.

That your petitioners therefore trust that in the selection of members, due care will be taken to appoint some men practically acquainted with the requirements of commerce.

That as the present India Board has been proved to act entirely without concert and without ever consulting the department of Government with the commercial interests of the Empire.

Your petitioners further consider it highly necessary that the India Council, in its new constitution, should be in constant intercourse with the Board of Trade, on all those questions which affect the trade, industry, and navigation of India and of the mother country.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honourable House will be pleased to introduce into the Government of India Act Amendment Bill, now under your consideration, provisions in accordance with the prayer of this petition.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

Bradford, June 30, 1869.

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS,

President.

John Darlington,

Secretary.

INLAND BONDING.

Having consulted with the trades interested in Inland Bonding, the Council presented to the Chancellor of the Exchequer a memorial, of which the following is a copy :—

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE ROBERT LOWE, M.P., CHANCELLOR OF THE
EXCHEQUER.

The Memorial of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce,

SHEWETH,—

That on the request of this Chamber, made in the year 1860 Her Majesty's Government were pleased to direct that the privilege of Bonding should be extended to Bradford.

That, whilst your memorialists admit that great benefit has resulted to the trading community by such concession, they desire to draw your attention to the hardship inflicted on this, and, your memorialists believe, on other inland towns enjoying a similar privilege, in consequence of the extra charges collected in those inland towns.

That your memorialists are informed, and believe that there now exists eighty-six Custom Houses in England, of which four only are inland and of the remainder, sixteen collect more revenue than arises from the Bradford Custom House, whilst sixty-six collect less.

That in these sixty-six towns the charges levied in addition to the ordinary duties are 2s. 6d. per £100 on Tobacco, and 5s. on other articles, whereas, in Bradford and the other three inland towns, the charges in addition to the ordinary duty are 5s. per £100 on Tobacco, and 10s. on all other articles—a difference which was sufficient to induce a manufacturer of tobacco to pay for bonding in London, or other seaport bonding town, rather than in Bradford.

That the duties and excise received at the Bradford Custom House amounted to the sum of £49,786, in the year 1868.

That your memorialists respectfully ask that the persons using the Bradford Custom House may be relieved from such additional tax, for the payment of which their fellow tradesmen, in all the small ports and places in the kingdom, are exempt.

And your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

Bradford, June 4th, 1869.

John Darlington,
Secretary.

(Signed)

JACOB BEHRENS,
President.

The Council have the satisfaction to state that the object sought by that memorial was fully accomplished, and that the extra charges levied for the privilege of Inland Bonding have been abolished, so that Bradford has now, in this respect, the same privileges as any seaport town.

The original promoter of this movement is Mr. William Gibb, of Manchester, and the Council have considered it to be their pleasing duty to acknowledge, by a special vote of thanks, the persistent zeal with which that gentleman has advocated this improvement.

WORKMEN'S EXHIBITION, 1870.

A meeting was held under the auspices of the Chamber, on the 4th May, in furtherance of this object, which was addressed by the Hon. Auberon Herbert and Mr. Probyn; a committee was formed, many meetings of intending exhibitors have been held, and it is to be hoped that the intentions of the promoters of this useful undertaking will be fully accomplished.

ARBITRATION.

Only one case of commercial dispute has during the year been submitted to the arbitration of the Council, but that case was one which, if brought before the ordinary Courts of Law, would probably have not led to a result so satisfactory to both parties, and certainly would not have been settled without heavy costs.

MR. REVERDY JOHNSON.

The American Minister having been pleased to accept the invitation of the Chamber to visit Bradford, was prevented doing so by his recall to the United States.

STATISTICS.

The Council have for many years insisted upon the necessity of correct statistical trade returns being given at the earliest possible period. They have to acknowledge the readiness with which the Statistical Department of the Board of Trade has always endeavoured to meet their wishes, but never has that desire been shewn in a higher degree than during the past year. Instead of the Chamber addressing urgent appeals to the Government for further information, the Board of Trade and the Customs have repeatedly desired the co-operation and the advice of the Council. Early in the year, the attention of the Statistical Department of the Board of Trade was drawn to the impropriety of private individuals being allowed to publish extracts from public documents for their own pecuniary advantage, and from some questions contained in a circular which has lately been received from the Board of Customs, it may be inferred that it is the intention to give in future, by authority, such information as will meet the requirements of the commercial public.

The following is the answer which has already been returned to one of the circulars mentioned, and another to questions as to average prices of wool during the last fifteen years will be prepared and sent as soon as the necessary materials shall have been collected :—

BRADFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

December 3, 1869.

S. SELDON, Esq.,
Secretary of Committee on Trade Statistics,
Custom House, London.

SIR,

Your circular having reference to the statistical tables, as published by the Board of Trade, has been received by many firms in this town, who considered it a subject upon which the Council of the Chamber of Commerce ought to express an opinion.

I have therefore considered it my duty to call the attention of the Council to the important questions which you raise, and have been instructed to express their satisfaction that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs desire to improve, as far as possible, the statistics emanating from their department.

This Council have long pleaded for improvement in the Tables of Exports, and beg to refer to the voluminous correspondence which they have had with the Board of Trade for this purpose. (See reports for 1866, page 12; 1837, page 52; 1868, page 11; 1869, page 28.) It is owing to their representations that the weight of exported worsted and woollens was at last added to the declaration of lengths and values, and they are still of opinion that the extension of this measure to other textile fabrics would be equally useful.

I may also observe that the subjoined answers are given from the stand-point of an Exporter of textile fabrics, and that they have no reference whatever to imports

1st.—The statistics, as now published, are frequently referred to, and are extremely useful, for they alone give reliable information as to the amount and value of exports to different countries, the absence of which would be extremely injurious, and would deprive the public of a very useful guide for all commercial operations.

2nd.—The accuracy of the returns has been frequently tested here, particularly when preparing documents for the use of Her Majesty's Government in their negotiations of treaties of commerce, and, considering the loose manner in which declarations are too often made, it is a matter of astonishment that the returns are so substantially correct. In comparing the English with foreign statistics, the same satisfactory result has been arrived at.

3rd and 4th.—Much notice has not been taken here of the monthly returns for the sake of comparison, but the details as regards articles and countries are most interesting and useful to the trade of this district, by whom any omission would be greatly regretted.

Great fault is found with the extraordinary delay in the annual returns, which appear so late that they have now merely a statistical, and for purposes of trade only an historical value.

5th.—This Chamber has frequently pointed out that a greater strictness observed by the Custom House with reference to the clearing of free goods for export, would create a wholesome change. If in the case of haphazard declarations, such as the shipping agents sometimes make, the Custom House were to refuse clearance of the goods until a satisfactory declaration be given; after one such experience, the agents would learn that they must not again trifle with the authorities, and insist upon their being furnished with instructions from their employers in the interior.

The Customs have it in their power to make the law obeyed, and ought to do so, even at the risk of causing a temporary annoyance in isolated cases.

It is believed that the merchants in this neighbourhood give, generally, sufficiently precise instructions to their shipping agents, hence the correctness of the returns as regards our staple trade; and there is no reason why a uniform rule might not be adopted, and, if need be, enforced.

6th.—The unofficial publication of the Bills of Entry, &c., are an unmitigated nuisance, just because it is unofficial and thus not above suspicion.

The information obtained from public documents ought to be given by authority if given at all, and would then be of the highest value; it is given in the United States, Hamburg, and elsewhere, and there acts as a valuable guide to the daily transactions of merchants.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

JACOB BEHRENS,

President.

PETITIONS TO PARLIAMENT.

Petitions were presented to Parliament in favour of the total abolition of the duty on Fire Insurance; Admiralty Jurisdiction Amendment Bill; another praying Parliament to pass such laws as would remedy the existing defects in secondary schools, and give to science and art that place in public instruction which the nation so urgently demands; another to give additional securities to Life Insurance; another for the repeal of the 17th Section of the Statute of Frauds; one for the Prevention of Adulteration of Food and Drink; and in favour of a Bill for the Voluntary Registration of Trade Marks.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The following subjects have more or less occupied the attention of the Council during the past year, and although no action has so far been taken upon them, they are of too great importance to be lost sight of, and many of them will no doubt form the subject of their deliberations in the coming year. They were—

Tribunals of Commerce.
Scientific Education.
International Coinage.
Particular Average.
Decimalization of Weights and Measures.

BOOKS AND PAPERS RECEIVED.

The following books and papers have been received during the year, and are at all times open for reference by the members, viz. :—

Board of Trade Returns.
Reports of Embassy and Legation.
Reports of Her Majesty's Consuls.
Report of the International Jury of the Paris Exhibition of 1867.
Report of the English Commission Do.
Technical Education in Switzerland.
Wendt's Maritime Legislation.
Report of Judicature Commission.
Factory Reports.
Annales du Commerce Exterieur, 1869.
Statistical Abstract, Colonies, 1853 7.
Rules under New Bankruptcy Act.
Statement of Commerce of Montreal, 1868.
Import and Export Duties.

FINANCES.

The balance sheet has been prepared, and after paying all expenses, there remains a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of £130 6s.

RETIREMENT OF MEMBERS.

The following Members retire either by rotation or for non-attendance, viz. :—

James Law, Esq.,	Edward West, Esq.,
Joseph Oddy, Esq.,	G. Alderson Smith, Esq.,
Edward H. Wade, Esq.,	Silas Scott, Esq.,
Leopold Fulda, Esq.,	Henry Brown, Esq. (Banker),
A. C. Churton, Esq.,	Gilson Homan, Esq.,
George Ackroyd, Esq.,	Joseph Craven, Esq.,
John Mitchell, Esq.	

And the following gentlemen have been re-elected and elected to supply the vacancies :—

*Leopold Fulda, Esq.	Moses Bottomley, Esq.,
*Joseph Oddy, Esq.,	Abraham Mitchell, Esq.,
*Edward Hurst Wade,	W. M. Wechmar, Esq.,
*James Law, Esq.,	John Ambler, Esq.,
Charles Semon, Esq.,	Archibald Neill, Esq.,
Robert Kell, Esq.,	Joseph Craven, Esq.,
Thomas Garnett, Esq.	

Those marked thus * were re-elected.

THE
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS
OF THE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR BRADFORD
AND THE
WORSTED DISTRICT,
WITH THE BYE-LAWS FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF COMMERCIAL QUESTIONS AND
DISPUTES REFERRED TO THE CHAMBER.

OBJECTS.

1. The Objects of the Chamber of Commerce are—

To promote measures calculated to benefit and protect the Mercantile and Trading interests of its Members, and of the town and neighbourhood of Bradford generally ;

To represent and express their sentiments on commercial affairs ;

To collect statistics bearing upon the Staple Trade of the district ;

To undertake the settlement of questions and disputes arising out of Trade, by Arbitration or otherwise, when submitted to it for decision ; and

Generally the attainment of such commercial advantages as the exertions of individuals may be less adequate to accomplish.

2 The Chamber of Commerce being instituted solely for commercial purposes, all questions of party politics are excluded.

MEMBERSHIP.

3. The Chamber shall consist of Bankers, Merchants, Spinners, Manufacturers, and others interested in the trade of the town of Bradford and its neighbourhood, and the Worsted Trade generally,

on payment of One Guinea, and Annual Subscription of One Guinea, to be paid in advance on the first of January in each succeeding year, or Ten Guineas at one time.

4. Subscriptions may be paid in names of Firms, but the annual subscription of One Guinea to confer only one vote. The member of the firm who is to vote must be named when the Subscription is paid; but firms subscribing Two Guineas annually will be entitled to the privileges and benefits of the Chamber for all members of the firm.

5. Any member of a firm so named being absent from Bradford, may depute in writing any other partner in the firm to vote for such absent member.

6. The agents of members not resident in Bradford, may vote in the names of their principals.

7. No member to be entitled to vote or exercise any privilege whose subscription is in arrear.

EXECUTIVE.

8. The business of the Chamber shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of Twenty-four members, to be styled "The Council of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce."

9. The Members of Parliament for the Borough of Bradford, and the Mayor of Bradford, for the time being, shall be members of the Council, *ex-officio*, in addition to the above.

10. Three Directors to form a quorum.

11. Eight Directors to retire annually from the Council by rotation, but to be eligible for re-election.

12. Vacancies occurring in the Council to be filled up for the current year by the Directors, if they see fit; but the annual vacancies of eight Directors shall be filled up by the members voting either personally or in writing, at the annual or any special meeting; such vacancies, nevertheless, to be supplied from the nominations of members, which shall be entered in a book at the Secretary's office, at least seven days before the annual or any special meeting (any member having the privilege of proposing eight members, but no more), and all the names so proposed shall be transmitted by the Secretary, together with a voting paper, to each member, in time for the Annual Meeting, or for any special meeting to be called for that purpose.

That in the event of any member of the Council not having attended the Council meetings, at least three times during the year, he shall retire with the other eight retiring Directors (being, nevertheless, eligible for re-election), and the members at the Annual Meeting shall fill up the vacancies occasioned by the retirement of such non-attending member.

In the event of a sufficient number of names not being entered in the Nomination Book, the members at the Annual Meeting shall fill up the vacancies from the list of members of the Chamber, without any previous nomination.

ANNUAL MEETING.

13. The Annual Meeting of the Chamber is to be held on the third Monday in January, at Three o'clock, p.m., at which the vacancies in the Council shall be supplied.

14. Notice for the Annual and Half-yearly Meetings to be given by circular to each member, and to be inserted once in the local papers. The place of meeting to be appointed from time to time by the Directors.

COUNCIL.

15. The Council shall meet at least once in every alternate month, and shall be summoned by circular, and at its first meeting (to be held immediately after its appointment) shall elect, out of its own body, a President, two Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Auditor for the year.

16. All meetings of the Chamber to be presided over by the President, a Vice-President, or one of the Directors, and the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

SPECIAL MEETINGS.

17. Special Meetings of the Council may be convened by the President, Vice-President, or three Directors, through the Secretary, giving at least two days' notice.

18. Special Meetings of the Chamber may be called upon the requisition of six members of the Council, or of twenty ordinary members; the Secretary to give seven days' notice thereof by circular, stating the object.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS AND EXPENDITURE.

19. The Council shall have power to take offices for the use of the Chamber, and to appoint a Secretary and other officers neces-

sary for the due conduct of the business of the Institution, with annual salaries, or other remunerations, for their services, taking security, if thought expedient.

20. The funds of the Chamber to be under the control of the Council for the time being.

21. No money to be paid by the Treasurer without an order signed by any two Directors and the Secretary; such order to be first sanctioned by a vote of the Directors.

BYE-LAWS.

22. The Council shall have power to make such Bye-Laws as it may judge necessary for the efficient and orderly conduct of the business of the Chamber, and any Director wishing to propose an addition to such Bye-Laws, or their alteration, must give ten days' previous notice in writing thereof to the Secretary, who shall give seven days' notice to the Council of such proposition; and no Bye-Law shall be made or altered without such notice.

DISCUSSIONS.

23. Any member of the Chamber desirous of bringing a subject before the Council, shall do so in writing, and if the Council think proper, he may confer with it on such subject.

RECORDS.

24. A correct record of the proceedings of the Council as well as of the Chamber generally, shall be kept in suitable books, which, together with all documents, commercial statistics, and other information, shall be open to the inspection of the members of the Chamber at all convenient times.

25. The Secretary shall keep minutes of the proceedings. He will also be required to collect the subscriptions, and take charge of, and be answerable for the safe keeping of all books, papers, and other matters, the property of, or submitted to, the Council of the Chamber.

REPORTS.

26. At every Annual Meeting of the Chamber, and at some meeting of the members, to be held during the month of June in each year, the Council shall make a report of its transactions, and shall, at the Annual Meeting, produce the Treasurer's account of receipts and disbursements.

LAWS.

27. No law shall be altered, repealed, or added, except by a majority of the members of the Chamber present at its Annual Meeting, or at a Special Meeting convened according to law.

28. No member shall have the power to propose an alteration, or repeal of, or addition to any law, unless he have given notice in writing to the Secretary of such his intention, in time for the Secretary to give at least seven days' notice to the members of such proposed alteration, repeal, or additon

ARBITRATION.

29. The Chamber will undertake, through its Council, the settlement of commercial questions and disputes, regularly submitted to its decision, by appointment of arbitrators or otherwise, under such regulations as the Council shall hereafter determine in its Bye-Laws.

CHAIRMAN.

30. In the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents at any meeting, the members present may elect a Chairman for the day.

ACCOUNTS.

31. The Treasurer to make up his accounts to the 31st December, which shall be audited and printed, and delivered to the members at the Annual Meeting.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

32. The Secretary to keep a correct list of members, to be at all times open to their inspection.

RAILWAY SCHEMES.

33. That no Railway scheme or undertaking shall be brought under the consideration of the Council, which has not been previously specially considered and reported upon by the General Purposes Committee, or by a Committee appointed for the purpose of making such report.

BYE-LAWS.

RULE XXIX.—The Chamber will undertake, through its Council, the settlement of commercial questions and disputes regularly submitted to its decision, by appointment of arbitrators or otherwise, under such regulations as the Council shall hereafter determine in its Bye-Laws.

1. When a Commercial question in dispute is referred to the Chamber for settlement, the application shall be made by both parties in writing, addressed to the Secretary, to be laid before the Committee of Arbitration; and if the Committee decide to take cognizance of the matter, the parties shall be requested to agree, if possible, to a common statement of their case, and the particular points at issue, also in writing; and shall sign an undertaking, or, if required by the Committee, enter into the usual arbitration bond, to abide by the decision of the Committee, or of the Arbitrators or Referee appointed under its sanction.

2. Parties thus referring a commercial question or dispute to the Arbitration Committee, shall have the option of leaving the case to the Committee to Ajudicate, or to commit it to a single Referee or to special Arbitrators.

3. In case of special Arbitrators being chosen, disputants shall each have the power of selecting an Arbitrator from among the members of the whole Chamber. The Arbitrators so appointed shall nominate a member of the Council as Umpire, before the case is opened. If the case be submitted to a single Referee, he must be a member of the Council.

4. In all cases brought before the Chamber for decision, the Committee, Arbitrators, or Referee shall be empowered to avail themselves of legal advice or Accountant's services, at the cost of the parties referring; but no professional man shall be allowed to appear for the disputants.

5. When the award has been made, it shall be signed by the Chairman of the Committee, Referee, Arbitrators, or Umpire, and countersigned by the Vice-Presidents and Secretary; and it shall be delivered, on payment of the costs and fees, to each of the disputants.

6. It shall be imperative upon all members of the Chamber acting as Arbitrators or Referees under its authority, to bring the matter submitted to their judgement to a decision as quickly as may be practicable with its due consideration, and in case of unnecessary delay, the Council to have the power, on application in writing from the disputants, to appoint other Arbitrators.

7. The fees from each disputant shall be One Guinea, to be paid at the time of the application. The expense of the Committee, Referee, Arbitrators, and Umpire shall be charged as costs.

8. In all applications for the settlement of disputes, one of the disputants must be a member of the Chamber.

9. The Secretary to take charge of papers lodged with him, and to produce the same before the Arbitrators; to issue notice in writing of each meeting to the Arbitrators and disputants; to assist the Arbitrators, if required, and to register the award in the Minute Book.

10. Unless the Committee decide to the contrary, all proceedings in matters of reference shall be conducted at the office of the Chamber.

11. If the Committee decide that an Arbitration Bond shall be entered into, the sum of Two Guineas and a Half shall be paid to the Secretary for the preparation of such bond (including the stamp), on the execution thereof by the disputants.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

LIFE MEMBERS.

	£	s.	d.
1 Behrens, Jacob, Swaine-street, Bradford, stuff merchant ..	10	10	0
2 Firth, Thomas, Ashfield	10	10	0
3 Forster, Right Hon. W. E., M.P., Burley, near Otley, and 80, Eccleston-square, London	10	10	0
4 Godwin, John V., Peel-place, Bradford, stuff merchant ..	10	10	0
5 Lister, S. C., Manningham Hall, Bradford	10	10	0
6 Ripley, Henry W., Lightcliffe, Halifax	10	10	0
7 Salt, Sir Titus, Bart, Lightcliffe and Saltaire, Bradford ..	10	10	0
8 Bartrum, A. C., Swaine-street, Bradford, spinner and manu- facturer	10	10	0

ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS.

9 Ackroyd, Thomas and Sons, Charles-street, Bradford, manu- facturers	2	2	0
10 Ackroyd, G. (Bradford Banking Company), Kirkgate.. ..	1	1	0
11 Ackroyd, J. and P., Brook-street, merchants	1	1	0
12 Ackroyd, William and Co., Otley Mills, Otley, and Hall Ings, Bradford, worsted spinners	2	2	0
13 Aders, Preyer, and Co. (W. Kutter), Burnett-street, Bradford, yarn merchants.. .. .	1	1	0
14 Aked and Robertshaw (Jeremiah Robertshaw), Manor Row, woolstaplers	1	1	0
15 Albrecht, S., Well-street, Bradford, stuff merchant	1	1	0
16 Ambler, Jeremiah and Sons (John Ambler), Valley Road, Brad- ford, Worsted Spinners	1	1	0
17 Ambler, Thomas and Sons, Swaine-street and Atlas Mills, Brad- ford, Spinners and Manufacturers	1	1	0
18 Anderton, George and Son, Cleckheaton, Manufacturers	1	1	0
19 Anderton, S. & Sons, Eastbrook Mills, Bradford, worsted spinners	2	2	0

	£	s.	d.
20 Armitage and Ibbetson, Hall Ings, Bradford, stationers	1	1	0
21 Arton, Thomas, Kirkgate, Bradford, stuff merchant	1	1	0
22 Ashley, John and Co. (John Ashley), Cannon Mill, Horton, worsted spinners	1	1	0
23 Aykroyd, William and Son (A. Aykroyd), Oakwood Dyeworks, Thornton-road and Swaine-street, Bradford, dyers	1	1	0
24 Bahlmann Bros., Bolton Road, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
25 Bairstow, T. and M., 43, Hall Ings, Bradford, manufacturers ..	1	1	0
26 Barraclough, Duncan and Co., Hall Ings and Otley, manufacturers	1	1	0
27 Barsdorf, Solomon, Brook-street, Bradford, manufacturer	1	1	0
28 Barthelmes, E. and Co., Burnett-street, Bradford, yarn mer- chants.. .. .	1	1	0
29 Beanland, J. and W. (John Beanland and William Beanland) Bradford, builders and contractors	2	2	0
30 Beanland, R. and Co., Charles-street, Bradford, spinners	1	1	0
31 Bell, Edmund, Swaine-street, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
32 Booker, R. A., Brook-street, Bradford, commission agent	1	1	0
33 Bottomley, M., Junr., and Co., Peel Place, Bradford, stuff mer- chants	1	1	0
34 Bottomley, Henry, Charles-street and Low Moor, manufacturers	1	1	0
35 Bottomley, S. and Brothers, Swaine-street and Buttershaw, manu- facturers	1	1	0
36 Bottomley, Moses and Sons, Brook-street and Shelf, manufacturers	1	1	0
37 Brigg, John and Co., 17, Swaine-street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
38 Briggs, Daniel, Upper Castle-street, Bradford, machine wool- comber	1	1	0
39 Brigg, Goldschmidt, and Co., Well-street, merchants	1	1	0
40 Broadbent, J. J., Hall Ings, Bradford, spinner and manufacturer	1	1	0
41 Broadbent, R. W., Brook-street, Bradford, stuff merchant ..	1	1	0
42 Brown, Henry, Market-street, Bradford, woollen draper	2	2	0
43 Brown, Henry (Yorkshire Banking Company), Market-street, Bradford, banker	2	2	0
44 Bunting, W. and Co., Hall Ings, Bradford, manufacturers ..	1	1	0
45 Butler, A. and H., Brook-street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
46 Byles, William, Kirkgate, newspaper proprietor	1	1	0
47 Carlton, Walker and Watson (J. Robinson), Well-street, Brad- ford, merchants.. .. .	1	1	0
48 Cavendish, Lord Frederick, M.P., 78, Piccadilly, S. W., and Holker Hall, Cartmel in Furness	1	1	0

	£	s.	d.
49 Charlesworth, Charles, Aldermanbury, Bradford, woolstapler and top maker	1	1	0
50 Churton, A. C., Swaine-street, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
51 Cliff, Joseph, Manchester-road, Bradford, iron-founder	1	1	0
52 Clough, John and Sons, Charles-street, Bradford and Steeton, manufacturers	1	1	0
53 Clough, R. (John Clough), Piece Hall Yard, Bradford and Grove Mills, Keighley, spinner and manufacturer	1	1	0
54 Cooke, John, Exchange, Bradford, share broker	1	1	0
55 Cowgill, William, Piece Hall Yard, Bradford, surveyor	1	1	0
56 Craven, Francis, Booth-street, Bradford and Thornton, manufacturer	1	1	0
57 Craven, Joshua and Sons, Swaine-street, manufacturers	2	2	0
58 Craven, I. and I. (John Craven, J. H. Craven, and T. Craven), Booth-street, Bradford, manufacturers	2	2	0
59 Critchley, William and Co., Booth-street, Bradford, stuff merchants.. .. .	1	1	0
60 Croft, William, Bermondsey, Bradford, stuff merchant	1	1	0
61 Cure, John, Manchester Road, Bradford, machine woolcomber	1	1	0
62 Dawson, Mark, Booth-street, Bradford, cotton warp agent.. .. .	1	1	0
63 Dean, Henry and Son, Colne, manufacturers	1	1	0
64 De Grey and Ripon, the Right Honourable the Earl, Carlton Gardens, London, S. W., and Norton Hall, Lincoln	1	1	0
65 Dehn and Melchior, Vicar Lane, Bradford, stuff merchants	2	2	0
66 Delius and Co., Burnett-street, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
67 Delius, Jacobs, and Co., 11, Manor-row, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
68 Denby, W. and Sons, Leeds-road, Bradford and Shipley, manufacturers	1	1	0
69 Dewhirst, John and Sons, 16, Brook-street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
70 D'Hauregard, H. and Co., Burnett-street, Bradford, stuff merchants.. .. .	1	1	0
71 Duckitt, William (Bradford District Bank, Limited), Market-street, banker	1	1	0
72 Drummond, James, Booth-street, Bradford, manufacturer.. .. .	1	1	0
73 Dufour, Brothers, Currer-street, Bradford, merchants.. .. .	1	1	0
74 Dunlop, Walter, Peckover-street, Bradford, stuff merchant	2	2	0

	£	s.	d.
75 Eckhard, J. C., Jun., and Co. (F. Eckhard), Chapel-street, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
76 Ecroyd, William and Sons, Lomeshay Mills, near Burnley, and Swaine-street, Bradford, manufacturers	2	2	0
77 Ehrenbach and Co., Well-street, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
78 Emanuel and Sons (C. Worms), Nelson-street, Bradford, spinners and extractors	1	1	0
79 Exley, W. O., and Co., Bermondsey, Bradford, woolstaplers ..	1	1	0
80 Fawcett, Richard, Dale-street, Bradford, woolstapler	1	1	0
81 Ferrand, W. and Son (Edward Ferrand), Thornton-road, woolstaplers	1	1	0
82 Firth, Booth, and Co., Leeds-road, Bradford, stuff merchants ..	2	2	0
83 Firth, Edwin and Sons, Heckmondwike, manufacturers	1	1	0
84 Firth, Thomas A., Cheapside, Bradford, woolstapler	1	1	0
85 Fison, William and Co., Hall Ings, Bradford, manufacturers ..	2	2	0
86 Foster, John and Sons (John Foster, William Foster, Jonas Foster, Abraham Foster, John Foster, Jun.), Well-street, manufacturers	3	3	0
87 Foster, William and Henry, Denholme and Well-street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
88 Fox, D. W., and Co., Bowling, manufacturers	1	1	0
89 Fox and Whitley, Chapel-lane, Bradford, woolstaplers	1	1	0
90 Frank and Co., Duke-street, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
91 Garnett, William, Barkerend-road and Exchange, Bradford, worsted spinner	2	2	0
92 Gardiner, Lot and Co., Swaine-street, Bradford, merchants ..	1	1	0
93 Gaskarth, Henry, Westgate, Bradford, bookseller	1	1	0
94 George, T. W., and Co., Leeds, dyers	2	2	0
95 Getz and Co., Booth-street and Longside-lane, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
96 Gillies, Garnett and Co., Peel-place, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
97 Goldschmidt, P., and Co. (C. Hahlo), Chapel-lane, Bradford, stuff merchants	1	1	0
98 Gurney, Brothers, Piccadilly, Bradford, woolstaplers	1	1	0
99 Haas, Philipp, and Sons, Horton, damask manufacturers	1	1	0
100 Haggas, James, and Son, 20, Hall Ings, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
101 Haigh and Naylor, Piece Hall Yard, Bradford, manufacturers ..	1	1	0
102 Hallewell and Crabtree, Union-street, Bradford, wool merchants	1	1	0

		£	s.	d.
103	Hall, William, Well-street, Bradford, yarn merchant.. ..	1	1	0
104	Halstead, H. R., and Co. (H. R. Halstead), Zetland Mill, Bradford, spinners and manufacturers	1	1	0
105	Harris, Alfred, Jun., Market-street, Bradford, banker . . .	1	1	0
106	Harris, Henry, Market-street, Bradford, banker .. .	1	1	0
107	Harrison, George, Cheapside, Bradford, printer .. .	1	1	0
108	Hastings, Charles, and Co., Swaine-street, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
109	Hattersley, George and Sons (R. Hattersley and Edwin G. Hattersley), Booth-street, Bradford and Keighley, machine makers	2	2	0
110	Hattersley, W. H., Booth Street, Bradford, merchant .. .	1	1	0
111	Henry, A. and S., and Co. (John Mitchell, Henry Mitchell, W. R. Haigh), Leeds-road, Bradford, merchants .. .	2	2	0
112	Hering, Skelly and Co., Bolton-road, Bradford, merchants ..	1	1	0
113	Hermann, Samson, and Leppoe (A. Engelmann), Well-street, Bradford, stuff merchants	2	2	0
114	Hertz, W. D., Vicar-lane, Bradford, yarn merchant .. .	1	1	0
115	Heyman and Alexander (E. S. Lassen), Well-street, Bradford, stuff merchants.. ..	1	1	0
116	Heynemann, E. and Co., Burnett-street, Bradford, merchants ..	1	1	0
117	Heyn, D. J., Burnett-street, Bradford, stuff merchant .. .	1	1	0
118	Hick, Joseph, Broadstones, Bradford, druggist .. .	1	1	0
119	Hill, J. (Commercial Banking Company), Market-street, Bradford, banker	1	1	0
120	Hind, John, and Brothers, Low Moor, and Piece Hall Yard, Bradford, stuff manufacturers.. ..	2	2	0
121	Hird, Dawson, and Hardy, Low Moor, iron and steel merchants	2	2	0
122	Hodgson, George, Thornton-road, Bradford, machine-maker ..	2	2	0
123	Hoffmann, A. and Co., Burnett-street, Bradford, merchants ..	1	1	0
124	Holden, Isaac and Sons (Isaac Holden, Angus Holden, Edward Holden), Thornton-road, Bradford, commission wool-combers	2	2	0
125	Holdsworth and Sons, Croft-street, Bradford, boiler makers ..	1	1	0
126	Holt, Richard, Duke-street, Bradford, stuff merchant .. .	1	1	0
127	Horsfall, J. G., and Co., North Wing and Booth Street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
128	Illingworth, Daniel, and Sons (A. Illingworth, M.P., and Henry Illingworth), Thornton-road, spinners and manufacturers	2	2	0
129	Ingham, Oates and Co. (John Ingham, Ben Ingham, Oates Ingham, John Edward Ingham), Valley-road, dyers	4	4	0
130	Ingle, John, Water-lane Mill, spinner and manufacturer .. .	1	1	0
131	Jonas, Simonsen, and Co., Well-street, Bradford, merchants ..	1	1	0
132	Keighley, John, Birksland Works, Bradford, machine maker ..	1	1	0
133	Kell and Co. (Robert Kell), Vicar-lane, Bradford, stuff merchants	4	4	0

	£	s.	d.
134 Kemp, A. B., Hall Ings, Bradford, commission agent.. ..	1	1	0
135 Kershaw, S. and H., 20, Swaine-street, manufacturers	1	1	0
136 Kessler and Co., Vicar-lane, Bradford, stuff merchants	3	3	0
137 Knowles, Jonathan and Co., Peel-place, Bradford, stuff merchants	1	1	0
138 Latimer, Thomas, Britannia Mills and Hall Ings, Bradford, manu- facturer	1	1	0
139 Law, Russell, and Co. (James Law, James Wales, William May- nard), Leeds-road, Bradford, stuff merchants	3	3	0
140 Leather, G. H., Zetland Mill, Bradford, spinner and manufac- turer	1	1	0
141 Leeming, John, and Sons (John Leeming and James Leeming), Railroad-street, Bradford, machine makers	2	2	0
142 Lewis, L., and Co., Currer-street, Bradford, stuff merchants ..	1	1	0
143 Levita and Hudson, Union-street, Bradford, commission mer- chants.. .. .	1	1	0
144 Levensohn and Co. (Julius Ephraimson), Hope-street, Bradford, wool merchants.. .. .	1	1	0
145 Liebreich, Ahrons and Co., Booth-street, Bradford, merchants ..	1	1	0
146 Lougee, N. S., Grandage & Co., Leeds-road, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
147 Luccock, Lupton and Co., Bridge-street, Bradford, stuff mer- chants	1	1	0
148 Marsland, S., Leeds-road, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
149 Martin, James F., and Co., Upper Castle-street and Brook-street, worsted stuff manufacturers	1	1	0
150 Mawson, H. O., Kirkgate, Bradford, stationer	1	1	0
151 McLaurin, A. S., and Co. (A. S. McLaurin, William Milligan and James Barker), Peel-place, Bradford, stuff merchants..	2	2	0
152 Merrall and Sons, George Hotel Yard, Bradford, and Haworth, manufacturers	2	2	0
153 Meyers, S. P., and Co., 32, Booth-street, Bradford, manufac- turers	2	2	0
154 Middleton, Answorth and Co. (G. Middleton, R. G. Geach), Leeds-road, Bradford, manufacturers	2	2	0
155 Milligan, John, Son and Co., Leeds-road, Bradford, stuff mer- chants.. .. .	1	1	0
156 Milligan, Forbes and Co., Hall Ings, Bradford, stuff merchants	1	1	0
157 Mills, J. W., Hall Ings, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
158 Milnes and France, Cheapside, Bradford, architects	2	2	0
159 Mitchell and Shepherd, Spring Mills and Booth-street, Bradford, spinners and manufacturers.. .. .	2	2	0
160 Mitchell, Brothers, Manchester-road, Bowling, manufacturers ..	2	2	0
161 Moller and Co., Chapel-lane, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
162 Moore and Pollard, Bermondsey, Bradford, woolstaplers	1	1	0

	£	s.	d.
163 Mossman, W., and Co., Zetland Mills, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
164 Muller, George, Brook-street, Bradford, commission agent..	1	1	0
165 Musgrave, S. and S., Brook-street, Bradford, woolstaplers..	1	1	0
166 Nacken, Haake and Co., Union-street, Bradford, commission agents	1	1	0
167 Nathan, Hardy and Sons (Ludwig Nathan), Bradford, stuff merchants	3	3	0
168 Nathan's, N. P. Sons (Louis Nathan), Vicar-lane, Bradford, stuff merchants.. .. .	3	3	0
169 Neill, Archibald, Legrams Lane, Bradford, builder and contractor	1	1	0
170 Novelli and Co., Leeds-road, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
171 Oddy, James, and Sons, Brook-street, Bradford, wool merchants	2	2	0
172 Oddy, J. C., Charles-street, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
173 Oldfield, James and Co., Kirkgate, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
174 Parkinson and Strohn, Norfolk-street, Bradford, stuff merchants	1	1	0
175 Pearson, Samuel, and Sons, contractors and sanitary tube manufacturers, Bowling	2	2	0
176 Peel, Brothers and Co., Swaine-street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
177 Peel, William and Co., Bridge-street, Bradford, stuff merchants	1	1	0
178 Philipp, J., and Co., Vicar-lane, Bradford, stuff merchants ..	1	1	0
179 Pickles, Joseph and Son, Well-street, Bradford, merchants . ..	1	1	0
180 Popplewell, B. B., Market-street, Bradford, wine merchant ..	1	1	0
181 Posselt and Co., Union street, Bradford, merchants	2	2	0
182 Powell, F. S., 1, Cambridge-terrace, Hyde-Park, London, and Horton Hall, Bradford	1	1	0
183 Preller, Emilius, Piccadilly, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
184 Priestley, B. and H. (B. Priestley), Shearbridge and Swaine-street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
185 Priestley, L., and Co., Charles-street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
186 Priestman, Frederick, Thornton-road and Exchange, Bradford, manufacturer	1	1	0
187 Priestman, A., and Co. (A. Priestman), Brick-lane Mill, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
188 Quitzow and Co., Well-street, Bradford, stuff merchants	2	2	0
189 Ramsden, A. W., Harden Beck, Bingley, and Charles-street, Bradford, worsted manufacturer	1	1	0
190 Ramsden, W., and Co. (W. Ramsden and J. Ramsden), Cliffe Mill and Market-street, Bradford, spinners and manufacturers	2	2	0

	£	s.	d.
191 Rand, John, Horton-road, Bradford, spinner and manufacturer	1	1	0
192 Reiss, Brothers, Vicar-lane, Bradford, merchants.. . . .	1	1	0
193 Renton, Thomas and Co., Bolton-road, Bradford, woolstaplers ..	1	1	0
194 Reuss, Ernst, and Co. (D. Winkelmann), Peckover-street, Bradford, merchants.. . . .	1	1	0
195 Ridings, Edwin, Westholme Mill, Bradford, worsted spinner and manufacturer	1	1	0
196 Riley, Thomas and Co., Charles-street, Bradford, stuff merchants	1	1	0
197 Ripley, Edward, and Son, Bowling, dyers	3	3	0
198 Robertshaw and Sons, Brown-street and Allerton, manufacturers	1	1	0
199 Robertshaw, James, Peel-place, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
200 Rouse, William and Co., Old Market, Bradford, merchants ..	1	1	0
201 Roper and Frerichs, Peckover-street, Bradford, merchants ..	1	1	0
202 Rothschild, Gustav, Leeds-road, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
203 Sachs, H. W. and Co., Piccadilly, Bradford.. . . .	1	1	0
204 Salt, Titus, Sons and Co. (Sir Titus Salt, Bart., George Salt, Edward Salt, Titus Salt, junr., Charles Stead), Well-street, Bradford, manufacturers	10	10	0
205 Scharff, E. and Co. (E. Scharff, A. Mensing), Hick-street, Bradford, merchants.. . . .	2	2	0
206 Schaub, William, Vicar-lane, Bradford, stuff merchant	2	2	0
207 Schlesinger, Julius and Co., Churchbank, Bradford, stuff merchants	1	1	0
208 Schlesinger and Wechmar, Peckover-street, stuff merchants ..	1	1	0
209 Schloestein, Calmann and Co., Hall Ings, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
210 Schunk, Souchay and Co., Well-street, Bradford, and Leeds, merchants	2	2	0
211 Schuster, Leo, Brothers and Co. (L. Fulda), Leeds-road, Bradford, stuff merchants	3	3	0
212 Scott, Silas, Colliergate, Bradford, stuff merchant	1	1	0
213 Semon, Charles, and Co., Churchbank, Bradford, merchants ..	2	2	0
214 Sharp, Jonas, and Sons, 25, Booth-street, Bradford, spinners and manufacturers	1	1	0
215 Sichel, S. E. and Co. (S. E. Sichel, John Groves), Leeds-road, Bradford, stuff merchants	4	4	0
216 Siltzer, John Ludwig, and Co. (J. S. Koppel), Union-street, Bradford	1	1	0
217 Simon, Israel, and Co., Bermondsey, Bradford, merchants ..	1	1	0
218 Smith, G. Alderson and Co., (G. Alderson Smith), Hall Ings and Upper Castle-street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
219 Smith, Samuel, Charles-street and Field Head, Bradford Dyer..	1	1	0
220 Smith, John and Samuel, Keighley, machine makers	1	1	0
221 Smithson, J. S. and J. (Josh. Smithson), Brooh-street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0

	£	s.	d.
222 Sonnenthal, Isidor, Currer-street, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
223 Sowden and Stephenson, Thornton-road, Bradford, power-loom jacquard machine makers	2	2	0
224 Speak, Paul, George Hotel Yard, Bradford, and Clayton, manu- facturer	1	1	0
225 Stansfeld, Brown, and Co., Leeds-road, Bradford, stuff merchants	2	2	0
226 Stavert, Zigomala, and Co. (T. Petrocockino), Well-street, Bradford, stuff merchants	2	2	0
227 Stead, Brothers, Tyrrel-street, Bradford, grocers	1	1	0
228 Steinthal and Co., Leeds-road, Bradford, stuff merchants	1	1	0
229 Stephenson, Bros., Thornton-road, Bradford, oil merchants	1	1	0
230 Stephenson, Edward, Mill Bank, Bradford, woolstapler	1	1	0
231 Sugden, Jonas and Brothers, Piece Hall yard, Bradford and Keighley, manufacturers	2	2	0
232 Sugden and Briggs (G. Sugden), Booth-street, Bradford, spinners and manufacturers	1	1	0
233 Sutcliffe, Samuel and Son, Valley Mill, cotton spinners	1	1	0
234 Sutcliffe, Bray, and Peters (John Bray), Drake-street, Bradford, carriers	1	1	0
235 Tankard, James, Uppercroft Mill and Charles-street, worsted spinners and manufacturers	3	3	0
236 Taylor, C. F., Lower Holme, Shipley, and Swaine Street, Brad- ford, manufacturer	1	1	0
237 Taylor, Jeffrey, and Little, 5, Piccadilly, Bradford, solicitors	2	2	0
238 Tetley, G. G., Leeds-road, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
239 Thwaites and Carbutt, Vulcan Iron Works, Thornton-road, Brad- ford, engineers, &c.	1	1	0
240 Thistlethwaite, J. and Co., Cheapside, Bradford, wool merchants	1	1	0
241 Thompson, James, Duke-street, Bradford, wool merchant	1	1	0
242 Thompson, Matthew William, Parkgate, Guiseley	1	1	0
243 Thornton, Homan, and Co., Leeds-road, Bradford, merchants	2	2	0
244 Tillotson, Miles, School-street, Bradford, wool merchant	1	1	0
245 Tordoff, T. D., Kirkgate, Bradford, tea dealer	1	1	0
246 Townend, Brothers (Edward Townend, Wrigley Townend, and G. H. Townend), Brook-street, Bradford, and Bingley, spinners and manufacturers	2	2	0
247 Townend, Brear and Co., Waterloo Mills, Clifford-street, Brad- ford, manufacturers	1	1	0
248 Townend, G. and W., Cheapside, Bradford, wool merchants	1	1	0
249 Tuke, Daniel, Bridge-street, Bradford, grocer	1	1	0
250 Turner, Charles, Fleece Mills, Thornton-road, Bradford, manu- facturer	1	1	0
251 Turner, George and Co., Booth-street and Peckside Mill, Brad- ford, manufacturers	2	2	0

	£	s.	d.
252 Taylor, Jas. S., Bermondsey, Bradford, woolstaplers	1	1	0
253 Unna, J. A., Swaine-street, Bradford, stuff merchant.. .. .	2	2	0
254 Wade, Joseph, Canal-road, Bradford, manufacturer	1	1	0
255 Wade, Edward Hirst, Canal-road, Bradford, manufacturer	1	1	0
256 Wade, John Henry, Kirkgate, Bradford, solicitor	1	1	0
257 Walker, Charles, Bridge-street, Bradford, spinner and manufac- turer	1	1	0
258 Walker, John, Tyrrel-street, Bradford	1	1	0
259 Wallace, Marsdin, and Co., Currer-street, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
260 Walmsley, S. B., Thornton-road, Bradford, machine maker	1	1	0
261 Watmuff, S., Drake-street, Bradford, and Harden, manufacturer	1	1	0
262 Watson and Naylor, Swaine-street, Bradford, and Kidderminster, manufacturers	2	2	0
263 Watson, W. and S., Kirkgate, Bradford, drapers.. .. .	1	1	0
264 Waud, C. and Co. (George M. Waud, Joseph E. Waud), Britannia Mills, Bradford, manufacturers	2	2	0
265 Webster, Robert, Chapel-lane, Bradford, maker up and packer..	1	1	0
266 West, Edward, Queen's Mills, Bradford, corn miller	1	1	0
267 Wheater, Smith and Tankard, Industry Mill, Dudley Hill, and Charles-street, Bradford, manufacturers	2	2	0
268 White, Joseph, Southgate Mill, Bradford, spinner	1	1	0
269 Whitehead, W. and J., Hope-street Mill, Bradford, manufacturers	2	2	0
270 Willey, Charles, Cheapside, woolstapler	1	1	0
271 Wilson, J. S., Horton-road, Bradford, manufacturer	1	1	0
272 Wilson, James, Booth-street, Bradford, agent	1	1	0
273 Wilson, Hall and Co., Brook-street, and Hall-lane, Bowling, manufacturers	1	1	0
274 Williams, E. G. and Co., Hall Ings, Bradford, merchants	2	2	0
275 Woller, S. (A. Rolfson), Duke-street, Bradford, merchant	1	1	0
276 Wood, James and Co., Prospect Mills, Allerton, and Brook-street, Bradford, manufacturers	1	1	0
277 Wurtzburg and Co., Hall Ings, Bradford, merchants	2	2	0
278 Wright, B. and Son, Brook-street, Prospect Mills, Wibsey, manufacturers	1	1	0
279 Yates, R. and Co., Hall Ings, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0
280 Zossenheim, Bros., Leeds-road, Bradford, merchants	1	1	0

THE BANKRUPTCY ACT,

AND

THE DEBTORS' ACT,

1869.

—

REPORT OF THE
BANKRUPTCY LAW COMMITTEE.

Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACT,

AND

THE DEBTORS' ACT, 1869.

R E P O R T

OF THE

BANKRUPTCY LAW COMMITTEE

AS TO THE

PROVISIONS OF THE ABOVE ACT.

ORDERED TO BE PRINTED FOR THE USE OF MEMBERS
OF THE CHAMBER.

BRADFORD:

PRINTED BY HENRY GASKARTH, WESTGATE.

1869.

BANKRUPTCY ACT, & DEBTORS' ACT, 1869.

R E P O R T

OF THE

BANKRUPTCY LAW COMMITTEE,

ON PROVISIONS OF THE ABOVE ACTS.

THESE Acts received the Royal Assent on the 9th August, 1869. The Debtors' Act does not extend to Scotland or Ireland, nor does the Bankruptcy Act, except so far as to make English, Scotch, and Irish Courts auxiliary to each other as to Bankruptcy.

A large amount of detail, in working out the Bankruptcy Act, is left to be regulated by Rules of Court. These are not yet published;* but the Council has thought some of the points, which are left to the Rules, of sufficient importance to justify them in adopting a Memorial to the Lord Chancellor. Omitting all reference to these as well as to many other details in the Bill itself, the leading provisions of these Acts, with which unprofessional and commercial men require to be familiar, are as follows:—

I.

AS TO BANKRUPTCY.

PART I.

Adjudication.

One or more Creditors (*but not a Debtor*) may petition, if the

* See postscript.

Debt, single or aggregate, is not less than £50, alleging one or more of the following Acts of Bankruptcy :—

- (1) An assignment for general benefit.
- (2) Fraudulent conveyance, gift, delivery, or transfer.
- (3) Intent to defeat or delay, by absenting from England or, if a trader, from home, by keeping to the house, or by suffering outlawry.
- (4) Filing a declaration of inability to pay.
- (5) Execution levied on goods for not less than £50.
- (6) After service of a Debtor's Summons for not less than £50, neglect to pay, secure, or compound, for seven days, if a trader, or for three months, if a non-trader.

But the Act of Bankruptcy must have occurred within six months before petition ; the Debt must be a liquidated sum, due at law or in equity ; and if security is held, the petitioner must offer to give it up or estimate its value, in which case he may petition to the extent of the balance, and the Trustee may require him to give up the security on payment of such estimated value.

A Debtor's Summons may be granted on proof that reasonable efforts have failed to obtain payment of Debt not less than £50. But the summons may be dismissed with or without costs, if the allegation is disproved, or proceedings may be stayed for trial of the question on such security (if any) for Debt and Costs being given as the Court may require.

The Debtor may, however, in the meantime be adjudged Bankrupt, on petition of some other Creditor.

The Order of Adjudication is to be published in the *London Gazette*, and advertised locally.

After the presentation of a petition, actions or suits may be restrained or allowed on such terms as the Court may think just, and a receiver or manager may be appointed.

Appointment of Trustee.

The Court to summon a General Meeting of Creditors, who may appoint a Trustee, either a Creditor or not, and fix his remuneration (if any) and fix his security ; give directions for the administration of the property ; also appoint a Committee of inspection, not exceeding five in number, and leave to them, if they so resolve, the appointment of Trustee.

The Creditors shall not divide property held on trust ; and the Debtor is to retain tools, apparel, and bedding to an amount in all not exceeding £20.

The Registrar of the Court is to preside over the first Meeting, or in his absence, such chairman as the Meeting may elect.

No Creditor to vote unless at, or previously to the Meeting, he has proved his Debt ; nor for any unliquidated Debt, or any Debt, the value of which is not ascertained.

A secured Creditor, unless he gives up the security, is to vote only on the unsecured balance ; until the security be realised, such balance to be determined in the manner prescribed by the Rules of Court. Where there is a set-off, the balance only is to be proved or voted for, but there is to be no set-off after notice of an Act of Bankruptcy.

Votes may be given personally or by proxy. An ordinary resolution to be decided by a majority in value ; an extraordinary resolution by a majority in number and three-fourths in value of Creditors present, personally or by proxy, at the Meeting, and voting on the resolution.

The Registrar to be *interim* Trustee, under the direction of the Court.

PART II.

Administration of Property.

The Bankrupt to produce a statement of his affairs to the first meeting, to be publicly examined thereon, and to attend and aid the Trustee or be deemed guilty of contempt of Court.

The Trustee is to have regard to the directions given by the Committee of Inspection, or to those given by any general meeting which are to over-ride those of the Committee of Inspection. The Trustee to call a meeting of the Committee of Inspection once at least every three months, who shall audit his accounts, and determine as to payment of dividends. He may also call special meetings of Committee, or general meetings of Creditors, or apply to the Court for directions. Any person aggrieved by any act of the Trustee may appeal to the Court

A Member of the Committee of Inspection may also summon a general meeting of Creditors, subsequent to the first meeting.

Trustee to take possession of books, documents, and property, and to keep proper books, which any Creditor may inspect. Trustee may disclaim onerous property, and any person injured by such disclaimer, may prove under the Bankruptcy. The time for disclaimer to be limited to twenty-eight days after notice has been given, requiring the Trustee to decide.

- (1) The Trustee is to receive and decide upon proof of debts, and for such purpose to administer Oaths.
- (2) To carry on the Bankrupt's business, so far as necessary for beneficial winding up.
- (3) To bring or defend any action.
- (4) To deal with property in tail.
- (5) To exercise powers of the Act, and execute deeds, &c.
- (6) To sell property and good-will (if any), or book debts, by auction or private contract.
- (7) To give receipts.
- (8) To prove in Bankruptcy of any Debtor of the Bankrupt.

The Trustee may allow Bankrupt to manage the property or carry on the trade, as the Creditors' may direct.

The Trustee may, with the sanction of the Committee of Inspection, mortgage, refer to arbitration, compromise, or he may divide

property amongst Creditors which cannot be advantageously realized by sale. Or with sanction of a special resolution of Creditors, and subject to approval of the Court, the Trustee may accept a composition offered by the Bankrupt or any general scheme of settlement. The Trustee is not to employ a solicitor without consent of Committee of Inspection, but if a solicitor, he may be paid for services under agreement.

Trustee to pay monies into such bank as the Creditors may appoint, and failing such appointment, into the Bank of England; and if he keep in his hands above £50 for more than ten days, he is to pay interest on the excess above £50, at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, and to be subject to dismissal on the application of any Creditor if he cannot satisfy the Court as to his reason for retaining the money.

Payment of Debts and Distribution of Assets.

Trustee to value contingent debts subject to appeal to the Court.

The following debts shall be paid in priority :—Parochial and local rates due at the date of adjudication, and having become due within twelve months next before, assessed taxes, land tax and property and income tax; wages and salaries not exceeding four months and £50 in the case of clerks or servants, and not exceeding two months in the case of labourers or workmen. All other debts to be paid *pari passu*.

The order for adjudication discharges an apprentice or articulated clerk on notice to that effect being given to the Trustee, or a transfer may be agreed on. If a premium has been paid a portion may be refunded.

A landlord may distrain for twelve months rent due prior to order of adjudication, and may prove for any overplus or any proportionate part of a stated period which is not due at the date of adjudication.

The Trustee may allow interest on any debt on which a jury

could allow interest if an action had been brought. The Trustee with consent of Creditors, may make allowance to the Bankrupt for services or for support.

Dividends.

The Trustee is to declare dividend when decided by the Committee, he is to call a meeting of Creditors if no dividend is declared for the space of six months, and he is to pay equalising dividends, when necessary.

The Bankrupt to be entitled to any surplus.

Close of Bankruptcy.

When the Trustee and Committee jointly are of opinion that all the property has been realised that can be without needless delay, the Trustee is to report the same to the Court, and the Court, if satisfied, shall declare the Bankruptcy closed.

Discharge of Bankrupt.

When Bankruptcy is closed, or before with special assent of the Creditors, the Bankrupt may obtain an order of discharge if 10s. in the £ has been paid or might have been paid but for negligence or fraud of Trustee, or on special resolution of the Creditors that the Bankruptcy arose from circumstances for which the Bankrupt could not justly be held responsible, and that they desire his discharge. But the Court may suspend or withhold the discharge, if satisfied that the Bankrupt has made default in giving up property, or that a prosecution has been commenced against him for punishment as a fraudulent debtor under "the Debtors' Act, 1869."

An order of discharge does not release any debt or liability incurred by fraud or breach of trust, nor debts due to the Crown.

Release of Trustee.

When the Bankruptcy is closed, the Trustee is to lay an account before a meeting of Creditors, together with a list of unclaimed dividends and outstanding property, if any, before applying

for his release ; and the Creditors may express their opinion on the conduct of the Trustee, and they or any of them, if dissatisfied, may appear before the Court and oppose the release of the Trustee, upon which the Court shall decide.

Status of Undischarged Bankrupt.

An undischarged Bankrupt is protected for three years from the close of the Bankruptcy, and if he makes the dividend up to 10s. within that time, he is entitled to his discharge in the same manner as if 10s. had been originally paid. But if he has not obtained his discharge at the expiration of three years, the balance of the debt becomes a judgment debt, subject to the rights of any persons who have become Creditors since the close of the Bankruptcy, and it may be enforced with the sanction of the Court, but to such extent only, and in such manner, as the Court may direct.

Audit.

Trustee to forward to the Comptroller his quarterly statement of accounts, certified by the Committee of Inspection, and also yearly statement of proceedings.

Comptroller to call the Trustee to account, require him to make up any loss which may arise by his misfeasance, neglect or omission, and to report to the Court, if necessary, and he may have the Trustee examined in Court, or may direct a local investigation of the Trustee's books and vouchers.

PART III.

The present Country District Courts of Bankruptcy are abolished by Section 130, and in future the Court is to consist of the London Bankruptcy Court, and of the County Courts. There is to be the option of a jury on any question of fact, and a power of appeal to the Court of Appeal in Chancery, and, with leave of that Court, to the House of Lords.

General Rules are to be made by the Lord Chancellor, with advice of the Chief Judge, and laid before Parliament.

PART IV.

Contains Supplemental Provisions.

- (1) As to proceedings.
- (2) As to Trustees and Committee of Inspection.

The Creditors have power to appoint more than one person as Trustee, and to fill up vacancies. The Registrar is to act whenever there is no acting Trustee; and the Court, upon cause shown, or the Creditors by special resolution, may remove a Trustee.

The Creditors may fix the quorum of Committee of Inspection, and any member of that Committee may resign or may be removed by special resolution of the Creditors.

- (3) As to Power of Bankrupt.

On cause being shown, the Bankrupt may be arrested, and his property seized to prevent his quitting the country, destroying his books, or removing his goods.

- (4) As to property devolving on Trustee.

Ecclesiastical benefices may be sequestrated. Traders' settlements, unless made before marriage, or for valuable consideration, or settlements made on wife or children, after marriage, of any property accruing after marriage in right of the wife, shall be void against the Trustee, if the settler becomes bankrupt within two years, and also shall be void within ten years, unless solvency at the time of settlement can be proved, exclusive of the settled property.

- (5) As to discovery of Bankrupt's property.

Power for the Court, on application of Trustee, to summon

before it the Bankrupt or his wife, or any person supposed to hold any of the property, or to be capable of giving information as to Bankrupt's property or dealings.

- (6) Provisions as to joint and separate Estates, one partner may be proceeded against without including the others.
- (7) As to evidence.
- (8) Miscellaneous.

PART V.

Enacts that privilege of Parliament is not to prevent adjudication, and that a member of the House of Commons, who is adjudged a Bankrupt, cannot sit or vote for a twelve-month, and vacates his seat, unless within that time the order is annulled, or the Creditors fully paid or satisfied.

PART VIII.

Contains a number of temporary provisions as to Bankruptcy Courts, Compensations, &c.

II.

AS TO ARRANGEMENT AND COMPOSITION.

There is a repealing Act which repeals, amongst other Acts, the short Act of 1868, for regulating arrangements and compositions known as "Moffatt's Act," the working of which has been found so beneficial. But as far more cases are usually settled by arrangement and composition than by Bankruptcy, it was absolutely necessary, after repealing "Moffatt's Act," to follow up the admirable basis which the present Bankruptcy Act establishes in cases of Bankruptcy, by some provisions to facilitate arrangement and composition, and to lessen the risks of collusion and fraud under such arrangements.

PART VI.

Accordingly provides that—

- (1) “A Debtor, unable to pay his debts, may summon a General Meeting of his Creditors, and such Meeting may, by a special resolution, declare that the affairs of the Debtor are to be liquidated by arrangement, and not in Bankruptcy, and may appoint a Trustee, with or without a Committee of Inspection.”

And contains a number of regulations, amongst the most important of which are that—

- (2) The provisions of the Act, in case of Bankruptcy, are to apply to Meetings for liquidation, except that Creditors under £10 reckon in value, but not in number. The provisions of the Act, in case of Bankruptcy, are also to apply to voting, to dividends, to settlements, to Trustees, and to discharge of Debtor in cases of arrangement.

The Debtor is to be present and produce a statement of all his effects and liabilities, with the names and addresses of his Creditors. The Creditors to prescribe the Bank into which the Trustee is to pay. But the Court, on sufficient cause, may still adjudge the Debtor a Bankrupt. And

PART VII.

Follows up Part VI. by providing that—

- “The Creditors of a Debtor unable to pay his Debts may, without any proceedings in Bankruptcy, by an extraordinary resolution, resolve that a composition shall be accepted.”

And this resolution must be confirmed at a subsequent Meeting, to be held at an interval of not less than seven nor more than

fourteen days. Voting to be as in Bankruptcy; but Creditors under £10 to reckon in value only. The Debtor to be present and produce a statement.

The composition so authorised to be binding on all Creditors in the Debtor's statement. But for sufficient cause, the Court may still adjudge the Debtor a Bankrupt.

Thus it will be seen that the provisions of the Bankruptcy Act are confined to the realisation and distribution of the assets; and the punishment of fraud is taken out of the Bankruptcy Courts altogether.

DEBTORS' ACT.

The Debtors' Act deals, in the first instance, with the question of Imprisonment for Debt. It then proceeds to supplement the Bankruptcy Act by providing for the punishment of fraudulent Debtors.

For this purpose the Bankruptcy Court may order the Trustee to prosecute the Bankrupt, on the report of the Trustee, or if the Court is satisfied that an offence, under the Act, has been committed on the representation of any Creditor, or member of the Committee of Inspection; and the costs of a prosecution so ordered, shall be allowed, paid, and borne as expenses of prosecutions for felony are.

Absconding, or attempting to abscond from England with property to the amount of £20, or upwards, which ought, by law, to be divided amongst the Creditors, is punishable as felony, with imprisonment not exceeding *two* years, with or without hard labour, unless the jury is satisfied that no fraud was intended, and provided the offence takes place after or within four months before the presentation of a petition for Bankruptcy or the commencement of liquidation.

The offences punishable as misdemeanours, with *one* year's imprisonment, with or without hard labour, are :—

- (1) "If, in incurring any Debt or Liability, he" (the Debtor)
"has obtained credit under false pretences, or by means of any other fraud."
- (2) "If he has, with intent to defraud his Creditors, or any of them, made, or caused to be made, any gift, delivery, or transfer of, or any charge on his property."
- (3) "If he has, with intent to defraud his Creditors, concealed or removed any part of his property since or within two months before the date of any unsatisfied judgment, or order for payment of money obtained against him."

The offences punishable as misdemeanours, with *two* years' imprisonment, with or without hard labour, are, generally, non-discovery, non-delivery of, or not accounting for, property, books, documents, &c. ; concealment or fraudulent removal of property to the value of £10 after, or four months before, Bankruptcy or liquidation ; material omission in any statement as to his affairs ; knowing or believing that a false Debt has been proved, and failing to inform the Trustee for the period of a month ; preventing the production of any book, document, &c. ; making any false entry in, concealing, destroying, mutilating, or falsifying any book or document, or being privy to the same ; fraudulently parting with, altering, or making any omission in any document, or being privy to the same ; accounting for property by fictitious losses or expenses ; having obtained property on credit that has not been paid for, by any false representation, or under the false pretence of carrying on business, and dealing in the ordinary way ; or pawning, pledging, or disposing of property otherwise than in the ordinary way of trade ; or being guilty of any false representation or other fraud for the purpose of obtaining the consent of any of his Creditors to any agreement with reference to his affairs, or his Bankruptcy or liquidation.

But these offences are not so punishable, if the jury is satisfied that there was no intent to defraud, conceal the true state of affairs, or defeat the law, nor unless the offence has been committed within four months next before Bankruptcy or liquidation.

There are also two special and important provisions :—

(1) If any *Creditor* in any Bankruptcy or liquidation, by arrangement or composition with Creditors, in pursuance of the Bankruptcy Act, 1869, wilfully and with intent to defraud, makes any false claim, or any proof, declaration, or statement of account which is untrue in any material particular, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, punishable with imprisonment not exceeding one year, with or without hard labour."

(2) Where a *Debtor* makes any arrangement or composition with his Creditors, under the provisions of the Bankruptcy Act, 1869, he shall remain liable for the unpaid balance of any Debt which he incurred or increased, or whereof before the date of the arrangement or composition he obtained forbearance *by any fraud*, provided the defrauded Creditor has not assented to the arrangement or composition, otherwise than by proving his Debt and accepting dividends.

The third part of the Debtors' Act provides that warrants of attorney and cognovit are invalid, unless executed in the presence of an attorney, who is to explain their effect and witness them ; and such documents, as also judges' orders, must be filed within twenty-one days.

JOHN V. GODWIN. CHAIRMAN.

P.S.—Since the foregoing was in the printer's hands, a draft copy of proposed Rules of Court has been sent out for the purpose of receiving any suggestions. They may, therefore, be somewhat modified ; but, as they stand at present, they are evidently framed with a view to that simplicity and spirit of fairness, both to Debtor and Creditor, which are the objects of the Act.

On the following points they fully meet the Memorial of the Council. All notices, generally, are to be forwarded by post to the address given in the Proof of Debt. Proof of Debt may be sent by post. Dividends are payable (less fivepence registered) by post, on the Creditor's returning the notice with receipt attached. Forms, not only for proxies, but for all proceedings, are given, and are so simple, that wherever it is desirable, they may be used without the necessity for legal aid. Office copies of all petitions, proceedings, papers, &c., are to be charged any Debtor or Creditor at the rate of 4d. a folio. It may be added that affidavits may be made before a justice of the peace, and are to include attestations upon honour. The Debtor's cash account is to extend to four months previous to adjudication.

The other points named in the Memorial are proposed to be arranged as follows :—

A Debtor's summons can only be granted by, and a petition for adjudication can only be presented to, a Court within whose district the Debtor resides or carries on business. But the Court may certify that the Bankruptcy would be more advantageously conducted in some other Court. The Registrar is to notify this opinion to the first or a Special Meeting of Creditors, and if they do not object by resolution within fourteen days, the transfer may be made and shall be final.

The petitioning Creditor and the witnesses to prove the Debt, the trading, and Act of Bankruptcy, must attend personally upon the hearing of the petition, unless personal attendance is dispensed with by the Court, on special cause shown to its satisfaction.

The mode of valuing a security, and the time for giving it up, are proposed to be as follows :—

“The balance of Debt in respect of which a secured Creditor shall be allowed to vote after deducting the value of his security shall be determined as follows :—

If the Creditor will undertake to assign the security to the Trustee, upon the application of the Trustee within two months after the Meeting at which he first votes, upon payment of the value he may set on it, the difference between such value and the amount of debt shall be the balance.

If the creditor will not undertake to assign the security as before-mentioned, then the balance shall be the difference between the amount of debt and the value put upon the security by a sworn appraiser, and produced to the Trustee at the Meeting.”

This applies to valuing, both for voting and for dividend—in Bankruptcy, in Arrangement, and in Composition. (Act, Sec. 16, cl. 4. Secs. 31, 40. Proposed Rules, 67, 91.)

It is not proposed that a Debtor calling a Meeting for Arrangement shall forward a statement with the notice of Meeting, probably because the Act says he shall present it to the Meeting. But it is proposed that any Creditor may obtain a copy of the Statement, Proofs of Debt, and Resolutions, &c., at the rate of 4d. a folio ; so that if not present at first Meeting he may, no doubt, have the information before the second Meeting takes place by which the proceedings of the first Meeting must be confirmed.